A/52/3/Rev.1

United Nations

Report of the Economic and Social Council for the year 1997

General Assembly

Official Records • Fifty-second Session
Supplement No. 3 (A/52/3/Rev.1)

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United Nations • New York, 1999

NOTE

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures.

The report of the Economic and Social Council on its organizational and resumed organizational sessions for 1997 and its substantive session of 1997 is contained herein. The report of the Council on its resumed substantive session of 1997 is contained in an addendum to the present report (A/52/3/Rev.1/Add.1).

ISSN 0082-8203

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Chapter I

MATTERS CALLING FOR ACTION BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OR BROUGHT TO ITS ATTENTION

In 1997, the Economic and Social Council adopted resolutions and decisions that call for action by the General Assembly. The relevant paragraphs of those resolutions and decisions are summarized below.

OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION: REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARDS OF THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME/UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND, THE UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND AND THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME

Revision of the General Regulations of the World Food Programme

By its decision 1997/217, the Council took note of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Executive Board of the World Food Programme on the revision of the General Regulations of the Programme, endorsed the revisions and decided to transmit them to the General Assembly for consideration at its fifty-second session.

INTEGRATED AND COORDINATED IMPLEMENTATION AND FOLLOW-UP OF THE MAJOR INTERNATIONAL UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCES AND SUMMITS

Follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development

By its resolution 1997/42, the Council took note of decision 97/14 of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund and recommended to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session that it decide on the process and modalities, including the consideration of convening a special session of the Assembly in 1999, to review and appraise the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development.

COORDINATION, PROGRAMME AND OTHER QUESTIONS: UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY

Report of the United Nations University

By resolution 1997/43, the Council recommended that the General Assembly adopt a decision whereby, beginning in 1998, the report of the United Nations University would be considered directly by the Second Committee of the Assembly in accordance with its programme of work.

COORDINATION, PROGRAMME AND OTHER QUESTIONS: PROCLAMATION OF INTERNATIONAL YEARS

International Year of Volunteers, 2001

By resolution 1997/44, the Council recommended to the General Assembly the adoption of the draft resolution contained therein.

International Year of Thanksgiving, 2000

By resolution 1997/46, the Council recommended that the General Assembly, at its fifty-second session, proclaim the year 2000 as International Year of Thanksgiving.

International Year for the Culture of Peace, 2000

By resolution 1997/47, the Council recommended that the General Assembly proclaim, at its fifty-second session, the year 2000 as International Year for the Culture of Peace.

REPORTS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES: ECONOMIC QUESTIONS AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUESTIONS

Report of the Committee for Development Planning on its thirty-first session

By decision 1997/223, the Council endorsed the recommendations contained in paragraphs 240 (a) and (b) of the report of the Committee for Development Planning and decided to submit them to the General Assembly for appropriate action.

Human settlements

By decision 1997/308, the Council took note, inter alia, of the extract from the report of the Commission on Human Settlements at its sixteenth session, which included two draft resolutions recommended for adoption by the General Assembly at its fifty-second session.

REPORTS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES: SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Follow-up to the Naples Political Declaration and Global Action Plan against Organized Transnational Crime

By resolution 1997/22, the Council recommended to the General Assembly the adoption of the draft resolution contained therein.

Preparations for the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

By resolution 1997/23, the Council recommended to the General Assembly the adoption of the draft resolution contained therein.

Crime prevention and criminal justice measures to eliminate violence against women

By resolution 1997/24, the Council recommended to the General Assembly the adoption of the draft resolution contained therein.

International cooperation against corruption and bribery in international commercial transactions

By resolution 1997/25, the Council recommended to the General Assembly the adoption of the draft resolution contained therein.

International cooperation in criminal matters

By resolution 1997/26, the Council recommended to the General Assembly the adoption of the draft resolution contained therein.

International Year of Older Persons: towards a society for all ages

By resolution 1997/18, the Council recommended to the General Assembly the adoption of the draft resolution contained therein.

Follow-up to the International Year of the Family

By resolution 1997/21, the Council recommended to the General Assembly the adoption of the draft resolution contained therein.

Dates for the special session of the General Assembly devoted to the fight against the illicit production, sale, demand, traffic and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and related activities

By decision 1997/238, the Council recommended to the General Assembly that the special session of the Assembly devoted to the fight against the illicit production, sale, demand, traffic and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and related activities be held from 8 to 10 June 1998.

REPORTS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES: HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS

Human rights and extreme poverty

By decision 1997/242, the Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1997/11, approved the Commission's request to the Secretary-General to convey the final report of the Special Rapporteur on human rights and extreme poverty, *inter alia*, to the General Assembly and the Council.

Question of the realization in all countries of the economic, social and cultural rights contained in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and study of special problems which the developing countries face in their efforts to achieve these human rights

By decision 1997/244, the Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1997/17, endorsed the Commission's request to the Secretary-General to submit reports to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session and to the Commission at its fifty-fourth session on progress towards the realization of the rights set forth in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

Implementation of the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief

By decision 1997/245, the Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1997/18, approved the Commission's request to the Secretary-General to provide all necessary assistance to the Special Rapporteur on religious intolerance to enable him to submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session and to report to the Commission at its fifty-fourth session.

United Nations staff

By decision 1997/247, the Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1997/25, endorsed the Commission's request to the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session a report on the situation of United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations operation who are imprisoned, missing or held in a country against their will, on new cases which have been successfully settled, and on the implementation of the measures referred to in Commission resolution 1997/25.

Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

By its decision 1997/251, the Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1997/38, approved the Commission's request to the General Assembly, in preparing the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, to proclaim 26 June a United Nations international day in support of the victims of torture and the total eradication of torture, and the effective functioning of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

Situation of human rights in Haiti

By its decision 1997/262, the Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1997/52, approved the Commission's request to the General Assembly to study the possibility of extending the mandate of the International Civilian Mission to Haiti, which expires in July 1997, and its invitation to the independent expert to inform the Assembly at its fifty-second session and the Commission at its fifty-fourth session about the development of the human rights situation in Haiti.

Situation of human rights in Nigeria

By its decision 1997/263, the Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1997/53, approved the Commission's request to the special rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Nigeria to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session and to the Commission at its fifty-fourth session.

Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran

By its decision 1997/264, the Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1997/54, endorsed the Commission's decision to extend the mandate of the Special Representative, as contained in Commission resolution 1984/54, for a further year, and approved its request to the Special Representative to submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session and to report to the Commission at its fifty-fourth session.

Human rights situation in southern Lebanon and West Bekaa

By its decision 1997/265, the Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1997/55, approved the Commission's request to the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session and to the Commission at its fifty-fourth session on the results of his efforts in regard to the human rights situation in southern Lebanon and West Bekaa.

Situation of human rights in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro)

By its decision 1997/266, the Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1997/57, endorsed the Commission's decision to extend for one year the mandate of the Special Rapporteur and its request that she submit periodic reports to the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights. The Council also endorsed the Commission's decision to request the Secretary-General to continue to make the Special Rapporteur's reports available to the Security Council.

Situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

By its decision 1997/267, the Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1997/58, endorsed the Commission's decision to request the Special Rapporteurs on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions and a member of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances to carry out a joint mission and to report to the General Assembly by 30 June 1997 and to the Commission at its fifty-fourth session. The Council also endorsed the Commission's decision to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo for a further year, to request the Special Rapporteur to submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session and to report to the Commission at its fifty-fourth session.

Situation of human rights in the Sudan

By its decision 1997/268, the Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1997/59, endorsed the Commission's decision to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Sudan for an additional year and to report his findings and recommendations to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session and to the Commission at its fifty-fourth session.

Situation of human rights in Iraq

By its decision 1997/269, the Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1997/60, endorsed the Commission's decision to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Iraq for a further year and to request the Special Rapporteur to submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session and to report to the Commission at its fifty-fourth session.

Situation of human rights in Cuba

By its decision 1997/271, the Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1997/62, endorsed the Commission's decision to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Cuba for one year and to request the Special Rapporteur to submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session and to report to the Commission at its fifty-fourth session.

Situation of human rights in Myanmar

By its decision 1997/272, the Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1997/64, endorsed the Commission's decision to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar for a further year and to request the Special Rapporteur to submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session and to report to the Commission at its fifty-fourth session.

Situation of human rights in Afghanistan

By its decision 1997/273, the Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1997/65, endorsed the Commission's decision to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan for one year and to consider submitting a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session.

Situation of human rights in Rwanda

By its decision 1997/274, the Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1997/66, approved the Commission's request to the Chairman of the Commission to appoint a special representative with a mandate to make recommendations on how to improve the human rights situation in Rwanda, as well as its request to the special representative to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session and to the Commission at its fifty-fourth session in accordance with his mandate. The Council also approved the Commission's request to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to submit a report to the Commission at its fifty-fourth session and to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session on the implementation of Commission resolution 1997/66, entitled "Question of the violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms in any part of the world, with particular reference to colonial and other dependent countries and territories".

Measures to combat contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

By its decision 1997/277, the Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1997/73, endorsed the Commission's request to the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism to submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session and a comprehensive report to the Commission at its fifty-fourth session.

Situation of human rights in Burundi

By its decision 1997/280, the Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1997/77, endorsed the Commission's decision to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Burundi for an additional year and its requests to the Special Rapporteur to submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session and a report to the Commission at its fifty-fourth session and to apply a gender perspective in his work.

Rights of the child

By its decision 1997/281, the Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1997/78, endorsed the Commission's decision to request the Secretary-General to enable the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography to submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session and a report to the Commission at its fifty-fourth session.

Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

By its decision 1997/293, the Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1997/74, approved the Commission's request to the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session a detailed report on the financial and personnel resources required for the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and invited the Assembly to consider the possibility of providing the resources required for the implementation of the Programme of Action; the Council also approved the request of the Commission to the Secretary-General to enable the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance to submit an interim report to the Assembly at its fifty-second session and a comprehensive report to the Commission at its fifty-fourth session; the Council also endorsed the Commission's decision to recommend to the Assembly the convening of a world conference on racism and racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, which should be convened not later than the year 2001.

Chapter II

HIGH-LEVEL SEGMENT

FOSTERING AN ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR DEVELOPMENT: FINANCIAL FLOWS, INCLUDING CAPITAL FLOWS, INVESTMENT AND TRADE

1. The high-level segment was held from 2 to 4 July 1997 (10th to 15th meetings of the Council). An account of the proceedings is contained in the relevant summary records (E/1997/SR.10-15). The Council had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Commission for Social Development on its thirty-fifth session (E/1997/26);[1]

(b) World Economic and Social Survey, 1997 (E/1997/50 and corrigenda);

(c) Annual overview report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination for 1996 (E/1997/54 and Corr.1);

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on fostering an enabling environment for development: financial flows, including capital flows; investment; trade (E/1997/67).

2. At the 10th and 11th meetings, on 2 July, the Council held a policy dialogue and discussion on important developments in the world economy and international economic cooperation with heads of multilateral financial and trade institutions of the United Nations system. Statements were made by the panellists, the Chairman of the Executive Board and Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the Director-General of the World Trade Organization (WTO), the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), and the Vice-President of Finance and Private Sector Development of the World Bank (see E/1997/SR.10 and 11).

3. At the 12th meeting, on 3 July, the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the President of the General Assembly addressed the Council (see E/1997/SR.12).

ACTION TAKEN BY THE COUNCIL

4. At the 42nd meeting, on 25 July, the Vice-President of the Council, Mr. Anwarul Karim Chowdhury (Bangladesh), presented the draft agreed conclusions of the high-level segment submitted by the President of the Council, Mr. Vladimir Galuska (Czech Republic) (E/1997/L.56).

5. At the same meeting, the Vice-President corrected the draft agreed conclusions and the Council adopted them as corrected. The text read as follows:

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[1] Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1997, Supplement No. 6 (E/1997/26).

Agreed conclusions 1997/1

"During its high-level segment, the Council carried out a comprehensive review of the theme 'Fostering an enabling environment for development: financial flows, including capital flows, investment and trade'. On 2 July, a stimulating dialogue was held with the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund, the Director-General of the World Trade Organization, the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the Under-Secretary-General in charge of the economic and social departments of the Secretariat and the Vice-President of the World Bank. On 4 July, a panel discussion with a group of eminent persons from the business and academic worlds was also held.

"The Council took note of the World Economic and Social Survey, 1997 (E/1997/50 and corrigenda) and the report of the Secretary-General on the theme (E/1997/67).

"I. THE CONTEXT

"The Council considered the theme in the context of the current global economic environment. The overall world economic outlook is favourable. At the same time, growth is not spread widely enough and the gap between developed and developing countries remains unacceptably wide. For many countries, particularly the least developed and the African countries, the threat of marginalization is real. Many continue to suffer from slow economic growth or stagnation. Also, unemployment is at unacceptably high levels, not only in developing countries but also in developed countries and countries with economies in transition.

"Globalization is a fact and a dynamic force. It offers opportunities as well as risks. The global opportunities created by it must benefit all countries and the risks associated with it should be managed and minimized. This will require strengthened international cooperation as well as careful stewardship and sound policies.

"II. A FRAMEWORK FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND NATIONAL POLICIES

"A. Strengthened international cooperation

"Each country has the primary responsibility for its own development. However, international cooperation and partnership have a vital role in creating a favourable climate in which capital flows, investment and trade can flourish.

"The broad elements of an enabling international environment for development include the creation and maintenance of stable international conditions; democratization in international relations in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and international law; establishment of an open, rule-based, equitable, secure, non-discriminatory, transparent and predictable multilateral trading system; and support for the weakest and most vulnerable members of the international community through more favourable treatment in trade and finance.

"An enabling international environment for development calls for better integration of developing countries, in particular, the African countries and the least developed countries as well as landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and countries with economies in transition, into the world economy, which requires enhancing their capacity to become equal partners in the world economy. The international community should support national efforts for capacity-building in developing countries, including infrastructure and manpower development and research and development. South-South cooperation and technical assistance from developed countries are also essential elements in promoting capacity-building in developing countries.

"An enabling international environment also requires coordination of macroeconomic policies by the international community to foster conditions of stability, predictability and growth in the world economy, stable exchange rates, low interest rates and low fiscal deficits, as well as trade liberalization, more equitable access of developing countries to global markets, an increased flow of productive investments, technologies and knowledge to developing countries, and new and additional financial resources from all sources. It also calls for broadening and strengthening the participation of developing countries in international economic decision-making processes.

"International cooperation efforts should be intensified and strengthened towards the developing countries' endogenous capacity-building in science and technology. There is a need to promote, facilitate and finance, as appropriate, access and transfer of environmentally sound technologies and the corresponding know-how, in particular to developing countries on favourable terms, including concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed, taking into account the need to protect intellectual property rights as well as the special needs of developing countries.

"B. National policies

"Democracy, respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, transparent and accountable governance and administration in all sectors of society, and effective participation by civil society are an essential part of the necessary foundations for the realization of social and people-centred sustainable development. The empowerment of women and their full participation on the basis of equality in all spheres of society is fundamental for development.

"The development and maintenance of adequate economic and social infrastructure, in particular a trained workforce and telecommunications and transportation facilities, are essential for the integration of countries in the world economy and should be given priority and receive the full support of the international community. Innovative policies designed to promote public-private partnerships to meet the enormous demands in these areas also need to be pursued.

"An essential component of an enabling environment for development is sound national macroeconomic policies and the creation of favourable conditions for investment and increased domestic savings, including through the creation of a sound banking system. Governments must also provide for social and economic infrastructure development, basic social services and, in particular, the needs of women and children. People living in poverty should be assured access to micro-credit in order to enable them to undertake micro-enterprises, which in turn generate self-employment and contribute to achieving empowerment, especially of women. The strengthening of institutions supportive of micro-credit should therefore be encouraged.

"Many countries are undertaking structural adjustment and reform and are pursuing their outward-oriented policies. Their efforts need international support. Particular attention needs to be paid to integrating the social dimension in structural adjustment programmes to ensure equity and the empowerment of people living in poverty and of the disadvantaged and vulnerable groups in society.

"C. Role of the United Nations system

"The United Nations system, given its unique universal composition and reach, has a specific role to play in promoting an enabling environment for development. Through, inter alia, the recent cycle of international conferences, the United Nations has promoted agreements and understandings on policies and goals for development and has given further impetus to national action and international cooperation for development. The United Nations system must now promote effective implementation of the agreements reached by strengthening its normative and operational role in development.

"III. POLICY ISSUES

"A. Policy coherence

"With the accelerating integration of the world economy, the interaction between the macroeconomic, structural, trade, financial and development aspects of economic policy-making has increased and is likely to intensify further. In the current economic environment, the question of policy coherence has thus emerged as a critical one for all participants in the global economy. An important aspect of policy coherence that affects the international environment for developing countries is the need for greater coherence to maximize the impact of development cooperation. The United Nations, the Bretton Woods institutions, and WTO also need to provide coordinated support.

"There is a need for an international dialogue on issues of policy coherence. One of the Council's high-level meetings with the Bretton Woods institutions and WTO, called for under General Assembly resolution 50/227, should be devoted to this topic. Further study of these issues is required, including consideration by the Committee for Development Planning or its successor arrangements, in order to develop approaches and modalities that the Council could consider at a subsequent session.

"B. Marginalization

"Many developing countries were not able to benefit from the globalization of the world economy over the past decade. Effective measures are called for to assist in their integration into the world economy.

"The least developed countries face the greatest risk of marginalization. Many other countries in Africa, notably those south of the Sahara, are similarly challenged - they lack various elements of the physical, financial, human and institutional infrastructure necessary to enter and compete effectively in international markets. Structural difficulties also deter inflows of foreign direct investment (FDI) and, more generally, perpetuate the dependence on a few highly volatile exports. Domestic supply-side constraints seriously limit export capacity. In many cases, the difficulties are compounded by the heavy burden of external debt service, erosion of trade preferences, deterioration in the terms of trade, and decline in the overall level of official development assistance (ODA).

"Marginalization is also faced by the most vulnerable groups in all countries. Increased competition under a liberalized global economy therefore calls for greater concern for the promotion of an equitable distribution of income, greater access to resources through equity, and equality of opportunity for all. Globalization should be balanced by social progress through policies that encourage job-creating growth and ensure social safety nets.

"C. Official development assistance

"ODA remains an essential source of external funding. The overall decline in ODA is a cause for serious concern. Moreover, a significant proportion of ODA is for funding emergency relief, thereby affecting availability for long-term development needs.

"It is important to reverse the overall decline in ODA flows and to achieve internationally agreed ODA targets as soon as possible. Such assistance should focus on developing countries, with particular priority to Africa and the least developed countries. Some donor countries have achieved or exceeded the accepted United Nations targets to allocate 0.7 per cent of GNP for overall ODA and 0.15 per cent of GNP for ODA for the least developed countries and are encouraged to continue to do so. Other developed countries reaffirm the commitments undertaken to fulfil these targets as soon as possible. Countries that are in a position to do so should strive to augment their assistance in the framework of development cooperation. The statements made by some countries to increase ODA are welcome.

"The Council welcomes the decision of the IMF Interim Committee to make the Enhanced Structural Adjustment Facility (ESAF) a permanent facility. Further efforts are called for to ensure that internationally supported adjustment programmes, including ESAF-supported programmes, incorporate social safety measures and restructuring of public expenditure, including increases in expenditure related to primary education and primary health services, in line with the recommendations of the World Summit for Social Development. The speed and sequencing of these programmes and safeguards for social equity are critical for their success.

"In order that international financial facilities, particularly the International Development Association (IDA), have more positive effects on development, the commitments for their replenishment, including the eleventh replenishment of IDA, should be fully implemented in a timely manner. Contributions to multilateral financial facilities have fallen off. It is essential that multilateral aid disbursements are not disrupted but are maintained or increased.

·D. External debt

·One of the specific obstacles over the past decade to the development efforts of many developing countries, in particular those in Africa and the least developed countries, has been the heavy burden of external debt-servicing. Even with sound economic policies and the full application of the debt-rescheduling arrangements of the past few years, a number of countries continue to face an unsustainable level of external debt-servicing. Debt-service problems of middle-income countries should also continue to be addressed effectively.

·There is an urgent need for effective, equitable, development-oriented and durable solutions to the external debt and debt-servicing problems of developing countries, and to help them exit from the rescheduling process. The evolving debt strategy has contributed to the improvement in the debt situation of a number of developing countries. Debt-relief measures have been undertaken by creditor countries both within the framework of the Paris Club and through the cancellation of debts and equivalent relief of bilateral official debt.

·The international community, including the international financial institutions, is invited to continue to explore ways of implementing additional and innovative measures to alleviate substantially the debt burdens of developing countries, in particular of the highly indebted low-income countries, in order to help them to achieve sustained economic growth without falling into a new debt crisis.

·In this context, the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) Debt Initiative is welcomed. Its timely and speedy implementation is called for. The implementation of the Initiative requires additional financial resources from both bilateral and multilateral creditors without affecting the support required for development activities of developing countries. The urgent need is stressed for developed countries to give the Initiative the support it both needs and deserves and to implement it flexibly to ensure that the performance already achieved is taken into account in determining the duration of adjustment required to reach, with the assistance of all creditors, an exit from debt rescheduling. The importance of implementing the Initiative's eligibility criteria flexibly, in a transparent manner and with the full involvement of the debtor country, and of continuously evaluating and actively monitoring the implications of the existing terms of the eligibility criteria in the implementation of the Initiative, so as to ensure sufficient coverage of heavily indebted poor countries, are also stressed.

·E. Volatility and vulnerability

·The increased integration of the world economy has the potential for increased volatility, particularly in international financial markets. The volatility in prices of primary commodities, interest rates and exchange rates has a disproportionate impact on developing countries. Integration of financial markets also tends to increase the downside risk of a sudden reversal of financial flows for an individual country, as well as the possibility of spillover effects on others.

"The dramatic increase in capital flows to emerging markets has contributed to sustained economic growth, but it has also complicated macroeconomic management. Sound macroeconomic policies remain an essential ingredient to prevent volatility, but speculative capital movements can threaten the stability of countries.

"The prevention of financial crises will require enhanced early warning mechanisms, including improved and effective surveillance of national and international financial markets. It will also require that multilateral institutions have the capacity to respond in a quick and coordinated fashion to potential crises. IMF is encouraged to fully exercise its role of overseeing the international monetary system to ensure its effective operation. In this regard, the efforts undertaken since 1995 to strengthen surveillance, to ensure that IMF is better equipped to identify emerging crises at an early stage and to facilitate its rapid response to such crises are welcomed.

"It is recognized that there is a need to strengthen international cooperation and consultation to prevent spillover effects of crises associated with the volatility of financial flows. International action is required to improve and coordinate regulatory frameworks for international financial transactions.

"The importance of ensuring that IMF has sufficient resources to assist its members is underlined. In this connection, the timely conclusion of the general review of quotas is encouraged. Potential participants are called upon to ensure that the 'New Arrangements to Borrow' become effective as soon as possible.

"F. Foreign direct investment

"Most developing countries have liberalized their FDI alongside their trade regimes. Although most FDI and portfolio capital still flow to industrialized countries, an increasing proportion is going to developing countries. However, FDI and portfolio flows are highly concentrated, mostly in parts of Asia and Latin America. In recent years, Africa has received only a very small part of total net private flows despite extensive reforms that continue to be implemented.

"The growth in FDI in developing countries is of particular importance. A challenge to the international community in contributing to an enabling environment for development lies in encouraging capital and investment flows across a broader range of developing countries.

"FDI plays an increasingly important role in countries with economies in transition. These countries would benefit more if the structure of FDI better reflected the need for investments in the productive and export sectors of their economies. Creating a favourable investment climate would facilitate this aim.

"In the light of the increasing importance of foreign direct investment in the world economy, the Council notes that UNCTAD, WTO and the other organizations concerned are studying the relationship between trade and investment.

"G. Trade and commodities

"An open, rule-based, equitable, secure, non-discriminatory, transparent and predictable multilateral trading system is a key element in fostering an enabling environment for development and is also essential for deepening the flow of technology and information around the world. There is a need to promote the universality of WTO and to facilitate the admission, in an expeditious manner, of developing countries and countries with economies in transition that apply for membership, through transparent implementation of the relevant WTO provisions in this regard.

"Trade liberalization should eliminate discriminatory and protectionist practices in international trade relations. This will have the effect of improving access for the exports of developing countries and should cover access to technology, distribution channels and information networks. With the growing internationalization of the services sector, further action should be taken to facilitate the participation of developing countries in international service liberalization.

"The importance of fully and expeditiously implementing the Marrakesh Declaration, the Ministerial Decision on Measures in Favour of Least Developed Countries and the Ministerial Decision on Measures Concerning the Possible Negative Effects of the Reform Programme on Least Developed and Net Food-Importing Developing Countries is stressed.

"Commodity exports continue to play a key role in the economies of many developing countries. Diversification of their economies is essential for their development. The international community should endeavour to improve the functioning of commodity markets with greater transparency and more stable and predictable conditions and should provide greater access to the export products of those countries.

"Continuing concerted action is needed to remove lingering, disguised and other obstacles to free and open trade. The liberalization of trade regimes and the promotion of an open and secure multilateral trading system are central requirements for the promotion of economic development. All countries have a shared interest in an open, rule-based, equitable, non-discriminatory, transparent and predictable multilateral trading system. All countries should commit themselves to the liberalization of trade and investment policies and should foster international cooperation towards this goal. Without prejudice to the clear understanding in WTO that future negotiations, if any, regarding a multilateral agreement on investment will take place only after an explicit consensus decision, future agreements on investments should take into account the objectives of sustainable development, and when developing countries are parties to these agreements, special attention should be given to their need for investment. The Uruguay Round Agreements provide the framework for an open, rule-based, equitable, secure, non-discriminatory, transparent and predictable multilateral trading system. All members of WTO should implement their commitments fully and all provisions of the Final Act of the Uruguay Round should be effectively applied to maximize economic growth and development benefits for all, taking into account the specific interests of developing countries. The full realization of the anticipated benefits from the conclusion of the Uruguay Round also requires that confidence in the integrity and credibility of the multilateral trading system be upheld. In this respect, the WTO dispute settlement mechanism is a key element of the credibility of the multilateral trading system. It is essential for all countries to respect and fulfil the totality of the undertakings of the Uruguay Round. Unilateral actions of a protectionist nature, inconsistent with multilateral trade agreements, should be avoided and prevented. Appropriate monitoring measures should continue to ensure that, in the implementation of the Uruguay Round, the rights, interests and concerns of all countries are protected, recognized and addressed. In this context, the importance of continuing and intensifying the international dialogue on issues of interest for developing countries, in particular the least developed countries among them, in appropriate forums, is recognized.

"The strengthening of the supply capacity of exportable goods and services in the least developed countries, as well as market access, is called for. The Council encourages the United Nations system, including IMF and the World Bank, WTO and UNDP, to provide coordinated support for action in this area. It urges all countries to participate in the forthcoming High-Level Meeting on Integrated Initiatives for Least Developed Countries, organized by WTO, UNCTAD, the International Trade Centre, the World Bank and IMF, which is to be held on 27 and 28 October 1997."

Chapter III

OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES SEGMENT

OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

1. . At its substantive session, the Council considered the question of operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation (agenda item 3). At its 6th and 7th meetings, on 30 June, it held an informal dialogue with heads of agencies. An account of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (E/1997/SR.6 and 7). A high-level meeting on operational activities was held on 1 July (8th and 9th meetings of the Council). An account of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (E/1997/SR.8 and 9). At its 18th and 19th meetings, on 8 July, the Council held an informal dialogue with the United Nations system country teams from Cambodia and Senegal. An account of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (E/1997/SR.18 and 19).

A. Coordination of activities on a system-wide basis: funding for operational activities for development: implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/227

2. At its substantive session, the Council considered the question of coordination of activities on a system-wide basis: funding for operational activities for development: implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/227 (agenda item 3 (a)) at its 6th to 9th meetings, from 30 June to 1 July 1997. An account of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (E/1997/SR.6-9). The Council had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields (A/52/155-E/1997/68 and Add.1);

(b) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report prepared by the International Monetary Fund on collaboration between the United Nations and the International Monetary Fund (E/1997/78).

3. No action was taken by the Council under item 3 (a).

B. Follow-up to policy recommendations of the General Assembly

4. At its substantive session, the Council considered the question of follow-up to policy recommendations of the General Assembly (agenda 3 (b)), at its 16th, 17th, 23rd and 41st meetings, on 7, 11 and 24 July 1997. An account of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (E/1997/SR.16, 17, 23 and 41). The Council had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation (E/1997/65 and Add.1-4);

(b) Note by the Secretary-General on policy issues arising from reports of the executive boards of United Nations funds and programmes (E/1997/89).

ACTION TAKEN BY THE COUNCIL

5. Under agenda item 3 (b), the Council adopted resolution 1997/59.

Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation: follow-up to policy recommendations of the General Assembly

6. At the 23rd meeting, on 11 July, the observer for the United Republic of Tanzania*, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution (E/1997/L.27) entitled "Operational activities of the United Nations for international, development cooperation: follow-up to policy recommendations of the General Assembly", which read as follows:

"The Economic and Social Council,

"Recalling General Assembly resolutions 50/120 of 20 December 1995 on the triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system and 50/227 of 24 May 1995 on further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social, and related fields, and Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/42 of 26 July 1996,

Recalling also that, in order to fulfil its coordination role, and in accordance with the policies formulated by the Assembly, the Council should consider, on an annual basis in the operational activities segment, the overall financial situation of the United Nations funds and programmes, particularly the contributions from developed countries to core resources, and make specific recommendations thereon on enhancing such contributions,

"Reaffirming that operational activities for development within the United Nations system have a critical and unique role to play in enabling developing countries to continue to take a lead role in the management of their own development process and that the funds and programmes constitute important vehicles for advancing international development cooperation,

"Noting with regret that, although significant progress has already been made on the restructuring and rationalization of the governance and functioning of the United Nations development funds and programmes, there has not been, as part of the overall reform process, any substantial increase in resources for operational activities for development on a predictable, continuous and assured basis, nor have the consultations on prospective new modalities for financing reached a conclusion,

"Gravely concerned that the persistent insufficiency and decline of resources for operational activities for development, in particular of core resources, is seriously affecting the priorities and the capacity of the United Nations funds and programmes to carry out their functions and to respond effectively to the increasing needs of all developing countries, as well as seriously eroding their fundamental mandates and characteristics, particularly their universal and multilateral character,

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* In accordance with rule 72 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council.

"Stressing that the fundamental characteristics of the operational activities of the United Nations system should be, inter alia, their universal, voluntary and grant nature, their neutrality and their multilateralism, as well as their ability to respond to the needs of developing countries in a flexible manner, and that the operational activities of the United Nations system are carried out for the benefit of the developing countries, at the request of those countries and in accordance with their own policies and priorities for development,

"Recognizing the urgent and specific needs of the low-income countries, in particular the least developed countries,

"Noting with appreciation the sustained contributions of some donors and recipient countries to the operational activities for development in a spirit of partnership and the recently expressed willingness of some donors to increase their contribution to the funds and programmes,

"Reaffirming that capacity-building and its sustainability are an essential element for operational activities of the United Nations systems at the country level, which should be country-led and country-driven,

"Noting that Assembly resolution 50/120 provides an opportunity to review all aspects of operational activities, including the resident coordinator system,

"1. Takes note of the reports of the United Nations funds and programmes;

I

"2. Strongly reaffirms that the efficiency, effectiveness and impact of the operational activities of the United Nations system must be enhanced by, inter alia, a substantial increase in their funding on a predictable, continuous and assured basis, commensurate with the increasing needs of developing countries, through the full implementation of General Assembly resolutions 47/199 of 22 December 1992, 48/162, 50/120 and 50/227;

"3. Stresses that intergovernmental discussion in the General Assembly, including the fifty-second session, and in the Economic and Social Council is essential to defining an international consensus on any measures that are contemplated to enhance the efficiency and functions of the United Nations funds and programmes;

"4. Urges the developed countries, in particular those countries whose overall performance is not commensurate with their capacity, taking into account established official development assistance targets and their current level of contribution, to increase substantially their official development assistance, including contributions to the operational activities of the United Nations system and for the effective implementation of the outcomes of the major United Nations international conferences;

"5. Recommends that the Executive Boards of the United Nations funds and programmes review and monitor, as a matter of priority and within the context of their regular meetings, their funding schemes, particularly of core resources, with a view to meeting their agreed upon target, reflecting the priorities and needs of programme countries, and increasing the target for voluntary contributions from official sources from the developed countries as the main source for funding of operational activities for the programming cycles, including the present cycle;

"6. Requests the Secretary-General to include in the report requested in paragraph 17 of Assembly resolution 50/227 proposals for increasing funding for operational activities for development on a predictable, continuous and assured basis, with a view to allowing the resumption during the fifty-second session of the Assembly substantive discussion on new modalities for funding of operational activities for development;

"7. Decides to continue examining during the operational activities segment of its substantive session of 1998 the issue of funding for operational activities of the United Nations system;

II

"8. Reaffirms that the objective of capacity-building and its sustainability should continue to be an essential part of the operational activities of the United Nations system at the country level and should be country-driven, situation specific and consistent with national development plans and priorities, with the programmatic approach;

"9. Emphasizes that capacity building should aim at strengthening national execution, particularly in institutional and human resource development, with a view to enhancing local ownership and management of the development process, utilizing available local capacities and expertise;

"10. Requests the United Nations Funds and Programmes to continue to provide support to the resident coordinator system as provided in Assembly resolution 50/120."

7. At the 41st meeting, on 24 July, the Vice-President of the Council, Mr. Anwarul Karim Chowdhury (Bangladesh), introduced a draft resolution (E/1997/L.53), submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution E/1997/L.27.

8. At the same meeting, the Council adopted draft resolution E/1997/L.53. See Council resolution 1997/59.

9. After the draft resolution was adopted, a statement was made by the representative of the United States of America (see E/1997/SR.41).

10. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution E/1997/L.53, draft resolution E/1997/L.27 was withdrawn by its sponsor.

C. Reports of the Executive Boards of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Food Programme

11. At its substantive session, the Council considered the reports of the Executive Boards of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Food Programme (agenda item 3 (c)) at its 18th and 19th meetings, on 8 July 1997. An account

of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (E/1997/SR.18 and 19). The Council had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Populations Fund on its first and second regular session of 1997 (DP/1997/6 and DP/1997/12);[1]

(b) Decisions adopted by the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund at its annual session, 1997 (DP/1997/22);[2]

(c) Report of the Executive Board of the United Children's Fund on the work of its first and second regular sessions of 1997 (E/1997/32, Parts I and II);[3]

(d) Report of the Executive Board of the World Food Programme (E/1997/34 and Add.1);

(e) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Executive Board of the World Food Programme on the revision of the General Regulations of the World Food Programme (E/1997/49);

(f) Annual report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund to the Economic and Social Council (E/1997/59);

(g) Annual report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund to the Economic and Social Council (E/1997/72);

(h) Annual report of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to the Economic and Social Council (E/1997/79);

(i) Extract from the report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund on its 1997 annual session (E/1997/L.20).[3]

ACTION TAKEN BY THE COUNCIL

12. Under agenda item 3 (c), the Council adopted decision 1997/217.

Revision of the General Regulations of the World Food Programme

13. At the 19th meeting, on 8 July, the Council took note of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Executive Board of the World Food Programme on the revision of the General Regulations of the World Food Programme (E/1997/49), endorsed the revisions and decided to transmit them to the General Assembly for consideration at its fifty-second session. See Council decision 1997/217.

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[1] For the final report, see Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1997 Supplement No. 13 (E/1997/33).

[2] For the final texts of the decisions, see Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1997, Supplement No. 13 (E/1997/33).

[3] For the final report, see Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1997, Supplement No. 12 (E/1997/32).

D. Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries

14. At its substantive session, the Council considered the question of technical cooperation among developing countries (agenda item 3 (d)) at its 18th and 19th meetings, on 8 July 1997. An account of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (E/1997/SR.18 and 19). The Council had before it the report of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing countries (A/52/39).[4]

ACTION TAKEN BY THE COUNCIL

15. Under agenda item 3 (d), the Council adopted decision 1997/216.

Report of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries

16. At its 19th meeting, on 8 July, the Council took note of the report of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (A/52/39). See Council decision 1997/216.

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[4] Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 39 (A/52/39).

Chapter IV

COORDINATION SEGMENT

COORDINATION OF THE POLICIES AND ACTIVITIES OF THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND OTHER BODIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

A. Mainstreaming the gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system

1. At its substantive session, the Council held a panel discussion on mainstreaming the gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system (agenda item 4 (a) at its 20th meeting on 9 July 1997. The participants included the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Associate Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, the Executive Director of the World Food Programme, the Deputy Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund and the Deputy Director-General of the International Labour Organization. The Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women served as moderator. An account of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary record (E/1997/SR.20).

2. The Council continued its consideration of the item at its 21st, 22nd, 31st and 33rd meetings, on 9, 10, 17 and 18 July. An account of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (E/1997/SR.21, 22, 31 and 33). The Council had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on mainstreaming the gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system (E/1997/66);

(b) Note by the Secretariat containing Commission on the Status of Women resolution 41/6, entitled "Mainstreaming the gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system" (E/1997/94);

(c) Statement submitted by the Inter-Parliamentary Union, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (E/1997/NGO/1).

ACTION TAKEN BY THE COUNCIL

3. At the 31st meeting, on 17 July, the Vice-President of the Council, Mr. Gerhard Henze (Germany), introduced the draft agreed conclusions (E/1997/L.30) on mainstreaming the gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system.

4. At the 33rd meeting, on 18 July, the Council adopted the draft agreed conclusions. The text read as follows:

Agreed conclusions 1997/2

"The Economic and Social Council takes note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on the coordination of United Nations system activities for mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes of the United Nations system (E/1997/66).

"States unanimously agreed at the Fourth World Conference on Women, held at Beijing in 1995, that it was essential to design, implement and monitor, with the full participation of women, effective, efficient and mutually reinforcing gender-sensitive policies and programmes, including development policies and programmes at all levels, to foster the empowerment and advancement of women. In order to ensure effective implementation of the strategic objectives of the Beijing Platform for Action,[1] the United Nations system should promote an active and visible policy of mainstreaming a gender perspective.

"In recognition of the fact that a gender perspective has not yet been fully integrated into the mainstream of United Nations activities, the Council wishes to promote a coordinated and coherent policy of gender mainstreaming by further clarifying the concept of mainstreaming and the central principles associated with it as well as by addressing specific recommendations to all actors within the United Nations system.

"I. CONCEPTS AND PRINCIPLES

"A. Definition of the concept of gender mainstreaming

"Mainstreaming a gender perspective is the process of assessing the implications for women and men of any planned action, including legislation, policies or programmes, in all areas and at all levels. It is a strategy for making women's as well as men's concerns and experiences an integral dimension of the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all political, economic and societal spheres so that women and men benefit equally and inequality is not perpetuated. The ultimate goal is to achieve gender equality.

"B. Principles for mainstreaming a gender perspective in the United Nations system

"Issues across all areas of activity should be defined in such a manner that gender differences can be diagnosed - that is, an assumption of gender-neutrality should not be made.

"Responsibility for translating gender mainstreaming into practice is system-wide and rests at the highest levels. Accountability for outcomes needs to be monitored constantly.

"Gender mainstreaming also requires that every effort be made to broaden women's participation at all levels of decision-making.

"Gender mainstreaming must be institutionalized through concrete steps, mechanisms and processes in all parts of the United Nations system.

"Gender mainstreaming does not replace the need for targeted, women-specific policies and programmes or positive legislation, nor does it substitute for gender units or focal points.

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[1] Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1997 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

"Clear political will and the allocation of adequate and, if need be, additional human and financial resources for gender mainstreaming from all available funding sources are important for the successful translation of the concept into practice.

"II. SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS FOR GENDER MAINSTREAMING IN THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

"The Economic and Social Council highlights the importance of undertaking immediate and concrete steps to mainstream a gender perspective, including the implementation of the present recommendations as a matter of urgency and at the latest by the time of the five-year review of the Beijing Platform for Action in 2000.

"A. The intergovernmental process of the United Nations

"The Council encourages the General Assembly to direct all of its committees and bodies and draw the attention of other bodies of the United Nations system to the need to mainstream a gender perspective systematically into all areas of their work, in particular in such areas as macroeconomic questions, operational activities for development, poverty eradication, human rights, humanitarian assistance, budgeting, disarmament, peace and security, and legal and political matters, taking full advantage of the outcome of the work of the Commission on the Status of Women.

"All bodies that deal with programme and budgetary matters, including the Committee for Programme and Coordination, should ensure that all programmes visibly mainstream a gender perspective.

"Other intergovernmental bodies with similar responsibilities in the United Nations system - for instance, the governing bodies of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the World Food Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund, the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the specialized agencies - are encouraged to monitor the way in which the concerned agencies, funds and programmes implement gender mainstreaming in their respective medium-term plans and programme budgets, including at the field level.

"The Council will take steps to strengthen its harmonization and coordination of the work programmes of the functional commissions, as well as the interaction between the Council, the functional commissions and other subsidiary bodies, to accelerate gender mainstreaming. To this end, the Council entrusts its bureau with establishing or strengthening a dialogue with the chairpersons and bureaux of those bodies, as well as a dialogue between them, with the active support of the chairperson and bureau of the Commission on the Status of Women.

"The Council calls upon all of its functional commissions and subsidiary bodies to mainstream a gender perspective in their work, and in this regard:

"(a) To adopt, as a first step, an explicit decision on mainstreaming a gender perspective in their work;

"(b) To make maximum use of the agreed conclusions of the Commission on the Status of Women on the 12 critical areas of concern when monitoring implementation of global conferences with regard to related topics at the national and international levels;

"(c) To take into account the work of the Commission on the Status of Women and the Commission on Human Rights in the area of enjoyment of human rights by women.

"The Commission on the Status of Women is urged:

"(a) To provide suggestions to other functional commissions and the Council on gender mainstreaming;

"(b) To use the work of other functional commissions as it relates to the 12 critical areas of concern in the Beijing Platform for Action - for example, in 1998, that of the Commission on Human Rights and, in 1999, that of the Commission on Population and Development - in dealing with priority themes.

"Regional commissions are requested to assume a catalytic role in exchanging experiences and best practices as well as promoting cooperation in gender mainstreaming on a regional level.

"The Secretariat is requested to present issues and approaches in a gender-sensitive manner when preparing reports so as to provide the intergovernmental machinery with an analytical basis for gender-responsive policy formulation and to ensure that the intergovernmental machinery is made aware of the decisions and recommendations of other relevant bodies in relation to gender mainstreaming.

"Under an item entitled 'Integrated follow-up of major United Nations conferences', the Council will monitor annually the way in which its functional commissions and subsidiary bodies mainstream a gender perspective on the basis of the report on the follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women.

"B. Institutional requirements for gender mainstreaming in all policies and programmes

"The Council welcomes the Secretary-General's commitment to mainstreaming a gender perspective and encourages him to demand accountability from senior managers for gender mainstreaming; in this regard, the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women is encouraged to continue to fulfil her important role.

"In the ongoing reform process within the United Nations system, inter alia, in the work of the executive committees, the systemic integration of a gender perspective should be ensured.

"The Council encourages the efforts of the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) to develop a mission statement on gender mainstreaming and trusts that such a statement will send a clear and concrete message to the system and will be applicable system-wide.

"The heads of the specialized agencies are encouraged to establish accountability of senior managers for gender mainstreaming.

"All entities of the United Nations system, making full use of the expertise and support of gender units or focal points - the Division for the Advancement of Women of the Secretariat, the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW) and the Inter-Agency Committee on Women and Gender Equality - should institutionalize mainstreaming of a gender perspective at all levels through specific steps, including:

"(a) The adoption of gender mainstreaming policies and the formulation of specific mainstreaming strategies for sectoral areas;

"(b) The use of institutional directives rather than discretionary guidelines for gender mainstreaming;

"(c) The improvement of tools for gender mainstreaming, such as gender analysis, the use of data disaggregated by sex and age and sector-specific gender surveys, as well as gender-sensitive studies, guidelines and checklists for programming;

"(d) The establishment of instruments and mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation, such as gender-impact analysis methodologies;

"(e) The creation of accountability mechanisms for gender mainstreaming.

"United Nations funds and programmes and specialized agencies should ensure that, on the basis of gender analysis, gender concerns are addressed in all planning activities when setting priorities, allocating resources and identifying actions and activities. The funds, programmes and agencies should also be requested to include an assessment of the steps taken to translate gender mainstreaming into country programmes and projects in their reports to the Council at its operational activities segment.

"All entities of the United Nations system should institute mechanisms for gender mainstreaming in their planning and programming, for example, through participation of gender specialists in these processes. Administrative procedures should be adapted to include accountability mechanisms, ensuring that a gender analysis has been conducted and its results reflected in the respective activity.

"The Council will assess the extent to which a gender perspective is being applied through institutional directives for planning and programming, in preparation of the comprehensive review of the system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women, 1996-2001.

"The Inter-Agency Committee on Women and Gender Equality, the Division for the Advancement of Women, INSTRAW and UNIFEM, in their advocacy and advisory roles, should better coordinate their support and catalytic activities for gender mainstreaming and should identify and develop joint activities and work plans in appropriate areas. The annual reports of INSTRAW and UNIFEM should be made available to the Commission on the Status of Women for information.

•C. The role of gender units and focal points in gender mainstreaming

•The location, seniority level, resources and participation of gender units/focal points in all policy-making and programming processes and support at the most senior management and decision-making levels are also crucial in translating the gender mainstreaming mandate into practical reality. The role of such gender specialists in all areas, including the economic and social fields, human rights and the political, humanitarian, peace and security areas, should be strengthened.

•The responsibilities of gender units and focal points should include:

•(a) Support for the development of gender-sensitive policies and programme strategies;

•(b) Advice and support of staff in applying a gender perspective, in particular in the follow-up to United Nations conferences;

•(c) Development of tools and methodologies for gender mainstreaming;

•(d) Collection and dissemination of information on gender issues and on best practices;

•(e) Assistance in monitoring and evaluating progress in gender mainstreaming in policy, programme and budgetary terms.

•At the field level, United Nations gender units and focal points should:

•(a) Provide guidance to the entities of the United Nations system on gender mainstreaming in the integrated follow-up to conferences across different sectoral areas;

•(b) In this regard, network with national machinery for the advancement of women and with all non-governmental organizations, in particular women's non-governmental organizations.

•D. Capacity-building for gender mainstreaming

•To enhance system-wide gender sensitivity and gender expertise through training as a priority for gender mainstreaming, all entities of the United Nations system should:

•(a) Integrate a gender perspective into all training programmes;

•(b) Provide continuous gender training for all staff, including those at the highest levels;

•(c) Provide special training for gender experts to enhance their skills;

•(d) Ensure that specialized gender expertise is available to them;

•(e) Coordinate their training efforts through a system-wide evaluation of the impact of gender-training.

"The relevant agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system should consider making arrangements and, if necessary, drawing up additional protocols to existing memoranda of understanding in order to mainstream a gender perspective in inter-agency partnerships and in cooperation agreements with intergovernmental organizations.

"To strengthen capacities for the collection, evaluation and exchange of gender-related information, a coordinated, system-wide effort under the leadership of the main coordinators for specific areas is needed for the development and systematic usage of, inter alia:

"(a) Gender-disaggregated statistics and indicators;

"(b) Proposals for treaty bodies and States on how to use statistics, including gender-disaggregated data, in reporting on and monitoring all relevant treaties in order to integrate a gender perspective;

"(c) Non-numerical indicators to monitor gender mainstreaming;

"(d) Electronic networks for information exchange on gender mainstreaming, such as WomenWatch;

"(e) Gender-sensitive public information activities and materials in all thematic areas.

"Gender balance is another central goal. It is recommended that the General Assembly and the Commission on the Status of Women be regularly provided with statistics on the number and percentage of women at all levels throughout the whole United Nations system. The Council reaffirms the goal of a 50/50 gender distribution by the year 2000 within the United Nations system, especially at the D-1 level and above, with full respect for the principle of equitable geographical distribution, in conformity with Article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations, also taking into account the lack of representation or the under-representation of certain countries. The ACC Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions and the International Civil Service Commission should monitor progress in staffing policies aimed at achieving gender balance.

"Capacity-building also requires the collection and sharing of best practices and lessons learned within the United Nations system and at the national level, including successful national initiatives:

"(a) The Inter-Agency Committee on Women and Gender Equality is encouraged to develop a standardized format for documenting and assessing gender-mainstreaming experiences in all areas of work, such as social and economic development, macroeconomic questions, operational activities for development, poverty eradication, human rights, humanitarian assistance, budgeting, disarmament, peace and security, and legal and political matters, including training and capacity-building;

"(b) The practice of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, in cooperating and collaborating with other treaty-monitoring bodies, should serve as a good example of the mainstreaming of a gender perspective throughout the United Nations system;

"(c) At the field level, United Nations operational entities, with support from gender experts and coordinated by inter-agency committees, should develop and share memoranda of understanding on gender equality goals in programme development and project implementation.

"The Division for the Advancement of Women, acting as the secretariat of the Commission on the Status of Women, should play an especially active role in generating new ideas, proposing practical suggestions and promoting constructive implementation of gender mainstreaming.

"Capacity-building further requires recognizing the importance of working with national commissions, national institutions for the advancement of women and non-governmental organizations, in particular women's non-governmental organizations, and developing partnerships with them.

"Accountability structures for gender mainstreaming need to be introduced or strengthened through institutional mechanisms and management culture. In this regard, the Inter-Agency Committee on Women and Gender Equality is encouraged:

"(a) To prepare a catalogue of accountability measures, including performance indicators, to monitor and evaluate progress in gender mainstreaming on both the programmatic and resource side;

"(b) To establish a baseline for gender mainstreaming performance by identifying a number of core indicators to be used in all departments and entities;

"(c) To report regularly thereon, inter alia, to the Commission on the Status of Women.

"E. Gender mainstreaming in the integrated follow-up to global United Nations conferences

"In order to facilitate gender mainstreaming in the integrated follow-up, review and appraisal of global United Nations conferences, the Council urges all entities of the United Nations system to:

"(a) Apply a gender perspective to all conference follow-up and, where appropriate, adjust their implementation activities accordingly, including through targeted, women-specific projects;

"(b) To utilize gender analysis effectively to identify the differential impact of implementation on women and men and to guide implementation towards gender equality.

"The resident coordinator should play a primary role in developing a coherent approach to gender mainstreaming in United Nations activities on conference follow-up at the field level, inter alia, through country strategy notes where these exist. Close cooperation between the resident coordinator, UNIFEM regional programme advisers, UNDP gender focal points and other United Nations agencies, funds and programmes should be ensured.

"All United Nations gender experts/focal points at the field level, including the UNIFEM regional programme advisers, should:

"(a) Establish a policy dialogue within sectoral areas to identify areas of commonality and complementarity between the critical areas of concern identified in the Beijing Platform for Action and the results of other United Nations conferences;

"(b) Facilitate linkages between national machineries for the advancement of women and all non-governmental organizations, in particular women's non-governmental organizations, and the institutions and processes engaged in implementation of United Nations conferences.

"Enhanced interaction among the Division for the Advancement of Women, INSTRAW, UNIFEM and national machineries for the advancement of women, such as national commissions, national institutions and all non-governmental organizations, in particular women's non-governmental organizations and relevant research institutes, should be pursued."

B. Freshwater, including clean and safe water supply and sanitation

5. The Council considered the question of freshwater, including clean and safe water supply and sanitation (agenda item 4 (b)) at its 23rd, 24th, 33rd and 35th meetings, on 11, 18 and 21 July 1997. An account of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (E/1997/SR.23, 24, 33 and 35). The Council had before it the report of the Secretary-General on freshwater, including clean and safe water supply and sanitation (E/1997/70).

ACTION TAKEN BY THE COUNCIL

6. At the 33rd meeting, on 18 July, the Vice-President of the Council, Mr. Gerhard Walter Henze (Germany), introduced the draft agreed conclusions on freshwater, including clean and safe water supply and sanitation (E/1997/L.40).

7. At the 35th meeting, on 21 July, the Council adopted the draft agreed conclusions, as corrected during the discussion. The text read as follows:

Agreed conclusions 1997/3

"The Economic and Social Council takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on freshwater, including clean and safe water supply and sanitation (E/1997/70) and of the suggestions contained in it for enhancing coordination and cooperation among the organizations of the United Nations system in the field of water resources.

"The Council notes with great concern that more than one fifth of the world's population does not have access to safe drinking water and more than half of humanity lacks adequate sanitation. It reiterates its recommendation[2] that the organizations of the United Nations system should assign high priority to strengthening their activities and cooperation in these areas of endeavour.

"The Council notes that the Commission on Sustainable Development, at its fifth session, and the General Assembly, at its nineteenth special session, looked upon water resources as an issue requiring high priority. The Council welcomes resolution 5-19/2, adopted by the General Assembly at its nineteenth special session, by which the Assembly, building on existing principles and instruments, arrangements and programmes of action called for 'a dialogue under the aegis of the Commission on Sustainable Development, beginning at its sixth session, aimed at building a consensus on the necessary actions, and in particular, on the means of implementation and on tangible results, in order to consider initiating a strategic approach for the implementation of all aspects of the sustainable use of freshwater for social and economic purposes, including, inter alia, safe drinking water and sanitation, water for irrigation, recycling and waste-water management, and the important role freshwater plays in natural ecosystems'.[3] The General Assembly further stated that 'this intergovernmental process will be fully fruitful only if there is a proved commitment by the international community to the provision of new and additional financial resources for the goals of this initiative'.[3] The Council stresses the importance of the role of the Commission on Sustainable Development concerning all matters related to the sustainable development of water resources.

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[2] See Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/46.

'The Economic and Social Council takes note of existing arrangements for cooperation and coordination through the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) Subcommittee on Water Resources and other arrangements among specific organizations and recommends that they take further steps towards streamlining their programme and activities. The Council urges the ACC Subcommittee to analyse in detail the activities that are currently being carried out by the organizations of the system and their interrelationship and to prepare a report on the subject by the end of 1997. The report would be a useful input into the preparatory process leading up to the sixth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development. The Council further recommends that the regional commissions take measures to enhance their participation at the sessions of the ACC Subcommittee on Water Resources in order to provide the necessary regional perspectives to the work of the Subcommittee.

'The Economic and Social Council stresses the seriousness of the capacity-building problem in developing countries and urges the organizations of the United Nations system to assign high priority to programmes and activities geared to the provision of support in this respect. It takes note of the conclusion of the comprehensive assessment of the freshwater resources of the world (E/CN.17/1997/9), submitted to the Commission on Sustainable Development at its fifth session, to the effect that the capability of providing accurate data on water quantity and quality is sorely lacking in the majority of countries and that, despite the existence of important programmes, international support efforts concerning information management remains fragmented and incomplete. The Council welcomes the recommendation by the General Assembly, at its nineteenth special session, 'to strengthen the capability of Governments and international institutions to collect and manage information, including scientific, social and environmental data, in order to facilitate the integrated assessment and management of water resources, and foster regional and international cooperation for information dissemination and exchange through cooperative approaches among United Nations institutions, including the United Nations Environment Programme, and centres of environmental excellence. In this regard, technical assistance to developing countries will continue to be important'.[4] The Council also considers that, owing to the lack of data in both developed and developing countries, there is a need for an update and reassessment of the water resources of the world. Given the seriousness of the situation concerning the effect of the disposal of toxic substances, including arsenic contamination of drinking water supplies, and of persistent organic pollutants upon water resources, the Council recommends that close attention be given to these issues. The work of the organizations of the United Nations system must be carried out taking into account chapter 18 and other relevant chapters of Agenda 21."[5]

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[3] General Assembly resolution S-19/2, annex, para. 35.

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[4] Ibid., para. 34 (f).

[5] Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992, vol. I, Resolutions Adopted by the Conference (United Nations publication E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

Chapter V

GENERAL SEGMENT

A. Integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up of the major international United Nations conferences and summits

1. At its substantive session, the Council considered the question of integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up of the major international United Nations conferences and summits (agenda item 5) at its 29th, 30th, 37th and 42nd meetings, on 15, 17, 22 and 25 July 1997. An account of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (E/1997/SR.29, 30, 37 and 42). It had before it the following documents:

(a) Letter dated 19 March 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/52/113-E/1997/18);

(b) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on the outcome of the World Food Summit (A/52/132-E/1997/57);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the agreed conclusions of the 1996 coordination segment of the Council on the eradication of poverty (E/1997/58);

(d) Report of the Secretary-General (E/1997/73);

(e) Statement submitted by the Inter-Parliamentary Union, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (E/1997/NGO/4).

ACTION TAKEN BY THE COUNCIL

2. Under agenda item 5, the Council adopted resolutions 1997/42, 1997/60 and 1997/61 and decision 1997/302.

Follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development

3. At the 37th meeting, on 22 July, the Vice-President of the Council, Mr. Anwarul Karim Chowdhury (Bangladesh) introduced a draft resolution (E/1997/L.42) entitled "International Conference on Population and Development", submitted on the basis of informal consultations.

4. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the draft resolution. See Council resolution 1997/42.

Eradication of poverty

5. At its 42nd meeting, on 25 July, the Council adopted a draft resolution (E/1997/L.54) entitled "Eradication of poverty", submitted by the Vice-President of the Council, Mr. Juan Somavía (Chile), on the basis of informal consultations. See Council resolution 1997/60.

Session of the Economic and Social Council in 1998 on integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up of the major United Nations conferences and summits

6. At its 42nd meeting, on 25 July, the Council adopted a draft decision (E/1997/L.55) entitled "Session of the Economic and Social Council in 1998 on integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up of the major United Nations conferences and summits", submitted by the Vice-President of the Council, Mr. Juan Somavía (Chile), on the basis of informal consultations. See Council decision 1997/302.

Integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up of the major United Nations conferences and summits

7. At its 42nd meeting, on 25 July, the Council adopted a draft resolution (E/1997/L.57) entitled "Integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up of the major United Nations conferences and summits", submitted by the Vice-President of the Council, Mr. Anwarul Karim Chowdhury (Bangladesh), on the basis of informal consultations. See Council resolution 1997/61.

B. Coordination, programme and other questions

8. At its substantive session, the Council considered the question of coordination, programme and other questions (agenda item 6) at its 25th, 26th, 28th, 31st to 33rd, 35th, 37th, 40th, 41st and 42nd meetings, on 14, 15, 17 and 18, and from 21 to 25 July 1997. An account of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (E/1997/SR.25, 26, 28, 31-33, 35, 37, 40, 41 and 42). It had before it the following documents:

(a) Relevant sections of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999 (A/52/6);

(b) Report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on its thirty-seventh session (A/52/16);[1]

(c) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the comments of the Administrative Committee on Coordination on the report of the Joint Inspection Unit (A/51/655-E/1996/105) entitled "Review of financial resources allocated by the United Nations system to activities by non-governmental organizations" (A/52/114-E/1997/46);

(d) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the comments of the Administrative Committee on Coordination on the report of the Joint Inspection Unit (A/51/636-E/1996/104) entitled "Coordination of policy and programming frameworks for more effective development cooperation" (A/52/115-E/1997/47);

(e) Report of the Secretary-General on possibilities of strengthening the coordination of the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system in the field of energy within the framework of the Administrative Committee on Coordination (A/52/175-E/1997/75);

(f) Letter dated 30 January 1997 from the Permanent Representative of the Kyrgyz Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General concerning the proclamation of the year 2000 as international year of mountains (E/1997/3);

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[1] Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 16 (A/52/16).

(g) Report of the Council of the United Nations University for 1996 (E/1997/7);

(h) Letter dated 5 February 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General concerning the proclamation of the year 2001 as the international year of volunteers (E/1997/11);

(i) Letter dated 6 February 1997 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General concerning the proclamation of the year 2000 as the international year of thanksgiving (E/1997/12);

(j) Annual overview report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination for 1996 (E/1997/54 and Corr.1);

(k) Report of the Secretary-General on progress made in the implementation of multisectoral collaboration on tobacco or health (E/1997/62);

(l) Note by the Secretary-General on the Joint and Co-sponsored United Nations Programme on Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (E/1997/63);

(m) Letter dated 19 June 1997 from the Chairman of the Committee on Conferences to the President of the Economic and Social Council (E/1997/84);

(n) Report of the Secretary-General on international cooperation in the field of informatics (E/1997/88);

(o) Letter dated 27 June 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Côte d'Ivoire to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General concerning the proclamation of the year 2000 as the international year for the cuture of peace (E/1997/93);

(p) Note by the Secretariat on the provisional calendar of conferences and meetings for 1998 and 1999 in the economic, social and related fields (E/1997/L.18 and Add.1).

ACTION TAKEN BY THE COUNCIL

9. Under agenda item 6, the Council adopted resolutions 1997/1, 1997/43 to 1997/47 and 1997/52 and decisions 1997/299 to 1997/301, 1997/303 and 1997/304.

1. Reports of coordination bodies

Reports of coordination bodies considered by the Economic and Social Council

10. At the 41st meeting, on 24 July, the Council took note of the annual overview report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination for 1996 (E/1997/54 and Corr.1). See Council decision 1997/300.

2. Multisectoral collaboration on tobacco or health

Tobacco or health

11. At the 33rd meeting, on 18 July, the representative of Bangladesh introduced a draft resolution (E/1997/L.34) entitled "Tobacco or health". Subsequently, the representative of Tunisia joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

12. At the 42nd meeting, on 25 July, on the proposal of the representative of Bangladesh, the Council decided to postpone consideration of the draft resolution.

Report of the Secretary-General on progress made in the implementation of multisectoral collaboration on tobacco or health

13. At the 42nd meeting, on 25 July, on the proposal of the President, the Council took note of the report of the Secretary-General on progress made in the implementation of multisectoral collaboration on tobacco or health (E/1997/62). See Council decision 1997/303.

3. International cooperation in the field of informatics

The need to harmonize and improve United Nations informatics systems for optimal utilization and accessibility by all States

14. At the 28th meeting, on 15 July, the representative of the Czech Republic, on behalf of Albania*, Algeria,* Andorra,* Angola,* Antigua and Barbuda,* Argentina, Armenia,* Australia, Azerbaijan,* Bahamas,* Bahrain,* Bangladesh, Barbados,* Belize,* Benin,* Bhutan,* Bolivia,* Bosnia and Herzegovina,* Botswana,* Brazil, Brunei Darussalam,* Bulgaria,* Burkina Faso,* Burundi,* Cambodia,* Cameroon,* Canada, Cape Verde, the Central African Republic, Chad,* Chile, China, Colombia, the Comoros,* the Congo, Costa Rica,* Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia,* Cuba, Cyprus,* the Czech Republic, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea,* the Democratic Republic of the Congo,* Djibouti, Dominica,* the Dominican Republic,* Ecuador,* Egypt,* El Salvador, Eritrea,* Ethiopia,* Fiji,* France, Gabon, the Gambia, Ghana,* Grenada,* Guatemala,* Guinea,* Guinea-Bissau,* Guyana, Haiti,* Honduras,* Hungary,* Indonesia,* Iran (Islamic Republic of),* Iraq,* Italy,* Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan,* Kenya,* Kuwait,* Kyrgyzstan,* the Lao People's Democratic Republic,* Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho,* Liberia,* the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya,* Liechtenstein,* Lithuania,* Madagascar,* Malawi,* Malaysia, Mali,* Malta,* the Marshall Islands,* Mauritania,* Mauritius,* Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of),* Mongolia,* Morocco,* Mozambique, Myanmar,* Namibia,* Nepal,* New Zealand,* Nicaragua, the Niger,* Nigeria,* Norway,* Oman,* Pakistan,* Palau,* Panama,* Papua New Guinea,* Paraguay,* Peru,* the Philippines, Poland, Qatar,* the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova,* Romania, the Russian Federation, Rwanda,* Saint Kitts and Nevis,* Saint Lucia,* Saint Vincent and the Grenadines,* Samoa,* San Marino,* Saudi Arabia,* Senegal,* Seychelles,* Sierra Leone,* Singapore,* Slovakia,* Slovenia,* Solomon Islands,* South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, Suriname,* Swaziland,* the Syrian Arab Republic,* Tajikistan,* Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia,* Togo, Trinidad and Tobago,* Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan,* Uganda, Ukraine,* the United Arab Emirates,* the United

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* In accordance with rule 72 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council.

Republic of Tanzania,* the United States of America, Uruguay,* Uzbekistan,* Vanuatu,* Venezuela,* Viet Nam,* Yemen,* Zambia and Zimbabwe,* introduced a draft resolution (E/1997/L.28) entitled "The need to harmonize and improve United Nations informatics systems for optimal utilization and accessibility by all States". Subsequently, Portugal,* Sweden and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

15. At the 33rd meeting, on 18 July, the Council adopted the draft resolution. See Council resolution 1997/1.

16. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of Luxembourg made a statement on behalf of the States members of the European Union.

4. Coordination of the activities of the organizations of the United Nations system in the field of energy

Report of the Secretary-General on the possibilities of strengthening the coordination of the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system in the field of energy within the framework of the Administrative Committee on Coordination

17. At the 42nd meeting, on 25 July, on the proposal of the President, the Council took note of the report of the Secretary-General on the possibilities of strengthening the coordination of the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system in the field of energy within the framework of the Administrative Committee on Coordination (A/52/175-E/1997/75). See Council decision 1997/304.

5. Joint and Co-sponsored United Nations Programme on Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome

Human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS)

18. At the 33rd meeting, on 18 July, the representative of Luxembourg, on behalf of Japan, South Africa and the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union, introduced a draft resolution (E/1997/L.36) entitled "Human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS)". Subsequently, the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Mexico, Mozambique, Norway*, Uganda and the United States of America joined in sponsoring the draft resolution, which read as follows:

> "The Economic and Social Council,
>
> "Recalling its resolutions 1994/24 of 26 July 1994, 1995/2 of 3 July 1995 and 1996/47 of 26 July 1996,
>
> "Noting with concern the continuing spread of human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS), particularly HIV/AIDS-associated deaths in 1996, which represent about 25 per cent of all HIV-related mortality since the beginning of the epidemic, the severe impact on development prospects and the worsening impact on individuals, households and society,
>
> "Recognizing that women and men are affected differently and that, in 1996, nearly half of the new infections occurred in women,

"Noting also with concern the increasingly dramatic situation of millions of children worldwide who are living under threat of the HIV/AIDS epidemic, and welcoming the theme of the 1997 World AIDS Campaign on Children Living in a World with AIDS,

"Noting with satisfaction the progress achieved in the implementation of the activities of the Joint and Co-sponsored United Nations Programme on Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS) and its co-sponsoring organizations during the first full year of operations of the Programme, and acknowledging the continued efforts made by Governments in response to HIV/AIDS at the national level as well as the financial support provided by countries to these efforts,

"Noting that the Programme, which was established to provide a coordinated United Nations response to the epidemic, constitutes an important example in the current United Nations reform efforts,

"Taking note of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Executive Director of the Programme (E/1997/63), which discusses the HIV/AIDS activities of the organizations of the United Nations system, and welcoming the increased involvement of the Secretary-General in the response to HIV/AIDS and his support to the Programme,

"1. Urges the co-sponsors and other relevant organizations of the United Nations system to strengthen their commitment to the response to the epidemic by integrating HIV/AIDS components throughout their operational activities at global, regional and country levels and in their follow-up activities to global conferences;

"2. Requests co-sponsoring organizations and the Programme to disseminate clear guidance to country-level staff on the role and functions of the United Nations theme groups on HIV/AIDS and their respective roles in providing technical assistance, and to report back to their respective governing bodies and to the Programme Coordinating Board on measures undertaken in this respect;

"3. Requests the United Nations funds and programmes and invites the specialized agencies to ensure effective coordination of HIV/AIDS-related activities in the context of the resident coordinator system;

"4. Urges the co-sponsoring organizations to share costs related to administrative support for the effective functioning of theme groups within the framework of the United Nations resident coordinator system;

"5. Appeals to Governments and the co-sponsors, and encourages other interested actors, to broaden their programme activities in the area of HIV/AIDS in order to cover all aspects of the epidemic, in particular addressing its social and economic dimensions;

"6. Urges all donors to continue their support and those not contributing substantially to increase their support to the Programme, giving priority to funding the core budget before making specified contributions in order to ensure its sustainable financing;

"7. Welcomes the support from non-traditional donors and urges other countries in a position to do so to contribute to the Programme;

"8. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit to the Economic and Social Council, at its substantive session of 1999, a comprehensive report prepared by the Executive Director of the Programme in collaboration with other relevant organizations of the United Nations system, drawing upon the biennial report on HIV/AIDS to be issued in 1998, on the progress made in the response to HIV/AIDS and its impact on the countries affected."

19. At the 39th meeting, on 23 July, the Vice-President of the Council, Mr. Anwarul Karim Chowdhury (Bangladesh), introduced a draft resolution (E/1997/L.46), submitted on the basis of the informal consultations held on draft resolution E/1997/L.36.

20. At the same meeting, the Council adopted draft resolution E/1997/L.46. See Council resolution 1997/52.

21. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution E/1997/L.46, draft resolution E/1997/L.36 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

6. Proposed programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999

22. At its substantive session, the Council considered the question of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999 (agenda item 6 (f)) at its 40th meeting, on 23 July. An account of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary record (E/1997/SR.40). The Council took no action on the item.

7. Calendar of conferences and meetings in the economic, social and related fields

Calendar of conferences and meetings for 1998 and 1999 in the economic, social and related fields

23. At its 41st meeting, on 24 July, the Council approved the calendar of conferences and meetings for 1998 and 1999 in the economic, social and related fields (E/1997/L.18 and Add.1). See Council decision 1997/301.

8. United Nations University

Report of the United Nations University

24. At the 35th meeting, on 21 July, the Russian Federation introduced a draft resolution (E/1997/L.38) entitled "United Nations University".

25. At the 37th meeting, on 22 July, the Vice-President of the Council, Mr. Anwarul Karim Chowdhury (Bangladesh), orally revised the draft resolution on the basis of informal consultations.

26. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised. See Council resolution 1997/43.

9. Proclamation of international years

International Year of Volunteers, 2001

27. At the 35th meeting, on 21 July, the representative of Japan, on behalf of Argentina, Armenia,* Australia, Austria,* Bangladesh, Belgium,* Canada, Colombia, the Congo, Costa Rica,* Djibouti, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany, Honduras,* Hungary,* Iceland, Indonesia,* Ireland,* Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mauritius,* Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of),* Mozambique, Nepal,* the Netherlands, Nicaragua, Peru,* the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Senegal,* South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Tunisia, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Republic of Tanzania,* the United States of America, Zambia and Zimbabwe,* introduced a draft resolution (E/1997/L.24/Rev.1) entitled "International Year of Volunteers, 2001". Subsequently, Denmark,* Ecuador,* Haiti,* Israel,* Kyrgyzstan,* Namibia,* Pakistan,* Poland, Portugal,* Swaziland* and Ukraine* joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

28. At the 37th meeting, on 22 July, the Vice-President of the Council, Mr. Anwarul Karim Chowdhury (Bangladesh), orally revised the draft resolution on the basis of informal consultations.

29. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised. See Council resolution 1997/44.

Proclamation of an international year of mountains

30. At the 31st meeting, on 17 July, the observer for Kyrgyzstan,* on behalf of Afghanistan,* Andorra,* Argentina, Armenia,* Austria,* Azerbaijan,* Bangladesh, Bhutan,* Brazil, Cambodia,* Canada, China, the Congo, Djibouti, France, Georgia,* Germany, Guyana, Italy,* Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan,* Kyrgyzstan,* Lebanon, Liechtenstein,* Monaco,* Mongolia,* Nepal,* Peru,* Republic of Moldova,* Romania, Slovenia,* Switzerland,* Tajikistan,* Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia,* Turkey, Turkmenistan,* Ukraine* and Uzbekistan,* introduced a draft resolution (E/1997/L.31) entitled "Proclamation of an international year of mountains". Subsequently, Colombia, Japan, Pakistan* and Poland joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

31. At the 37th meeting, on 22 July, the Vice-President of the Council, Mr. Anwarul Karim Chowdhury (Bangladesh), informed the Council of the outcome of informal consultations held on the draft resolution.

32. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the draft resolution. See Council resolution 1997/45.

Proclamation of international years

33. At the 35th meeting, on 21 July, the representative of the Russian Federation introduced a draft resolution (E/1997/L.32) entitled "Proclamation of international years".

34. At the 42nd meeting, on 25 July, the Vice-President of the Council, Mr. Anwarul Karim Chowdhury (Bangladesh), informed the Council of the results of the informal consultations held on the draft resolution.

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* In accordance with rule 72 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council.

35. At the same meeting, the Council decided to defer consideration of the draft resolution to the resumed session of the Council.

International Year of Thanksgiving, 2000

36. At the 31st meeting, on 17 July, the representative of Argentina, on behalf of Argentina, Bangladesh, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica,* Côte d'Ivoire, El Salvador, Guyana, Kenya,* Kyrgyzstan,* Nicaragua, Paraguay,* the Philippines, Swaziland,* the United States of America and Uruguay,* introduced a draft resolution (E/1997/L.35) entitled "The year 2000: International Year of Thanksgiving". Subsequently, Ecuador,* Honduras,* Liberia,* Poland, Trinidad and Tobago,* Tunisia and Venezuela* joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

37. At the 37th meeting, on 22 July, the Vice-President of the Council, Mr. Anwarul Karim Chowdhury (Bangladesh), informed the Council of the results of the informal consultations held on the draft resolution.

38. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the draft resolution. See Council resolution 1997/46.

International Year for the Culture of Peace, 2000

39. At the 31st meeting, on 17 July, the representative of Côte d'Ivoire, on behalf of Algeria,* Argentina, Bangladesh, Brazil, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo,* Djibouti, Egypt,* El Salvador, Ethiopia,* Gabon, Ghana,* Guatemala,* Guinea,* Haiti,* Israel,* Jamaica, Kenya,* Morocco,* Mozambique, Namibia,* Nigeria,* Peru,* Senegal,* South Africa, the Sudan, Swaziland,* Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania,* Uruguay,* Venezuela,* Zambia and Zimbabwe,* introduced a draft resolution (E/1997/L.37) entitled "Proclamation of the year 2000 as the International Year for the Culture of Peace". Subsequently, Cuba joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

40. At the 37th meeting, on 22 July, the Vice-President of the Council, Mr. Anwarul Karim Chowdhury (Bangladesh), informed the Council of the results of the informal consultations held on the draft resolution.

41. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the draft resolution. See Council resolution 1997/47.

Documents considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with coordination, programme and other questions

42. At the 41st meeting, on 24 July, the Council, on the proposal of the President, took note of documents considered in connection with coordination, programme and other questions. See Council decision 1997/299.

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* In accordance with rule 72 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council.

C. Reports, conclusions and recommendations of subsidiary bodies

1. Economic questions and environmental questions

43. At its substantive session, the Council considered the question of reports, conclusions and recommendations of subsidiary bodies: economic questions and environmental questions (agenda items 7 (a) and (b)) at its 32nd, 34th, 35th, 37th and 42nd meetings, on 17, 18, 21, 22 and 25 July 1997. An account of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (E/1997/SR.32, 34, 35, 37 and 42). It had before it the following documents:

(a) Letter dated 19 March 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/52/113-E/1997/18);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) (A/52/181-E/1997/77);

(c) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report prepared by the UNCTAD secretariat, entitled "Trade and environment: concrete progress achieved and some outstanding issues" (A/S-19/4-E/1997/13 and Add.1);

(d) Letter dated 21 March 1997 from the Permanent Representatives of Japan and the United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/S-19/7-E/1997/19);

(e) Letter dated 31 March 1997 from the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/S-19/8-E/1997/20);

(f) Report of the Commission on Sustainable Development on preparations for the special session of the General Assembly for the purpose of an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21 (A/S-19/14-E/1997/60);

(g) Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (E/1997/16);

(h) Report of the Statistical Commission on its twenty-ninth session (E/1997/24);[2]

(i) Report of the Commission on Population and Development on its thirtieth session (E/1997/25);[3]

(j) Report of the Commission on Sustainable Development on its fifth session (E/1997/29);[4]

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[2] Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1997, Supplement No. 4 (E/1997/24).

[3] Ibid., Supplement No. 5 (E/1997/25).

[4] Ibid., Supplement No. 9 (E/1997/29).

(k) Report of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on its third session (E/1997/31);[5]

(l) Report of the Committee for Development Planning on its thirty-first session (E/1997/35);[6]

(m) Report of the Secretary-General on the Fourteenth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific (E/1997/52);

(n) Report of the Secretary-General on consumer protection (E/1997/61);

(o) Report of the Secretary-General on the Sixth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for the Americas (E/1997/82);

(p) Letter dated 6 June 1997 from the President of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund to the President of the Economic and Social Council (E/1997/83);

(q) Report of the Secretary-General on the Thirteenth Meeting of Experts on the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and Finance (E/1997/86);

(r) Letter dated 28 June 1997 from the President of the General Assembly to the President of the Economic and Social Council (E/1997/95);

(s) Note by the Secretariat containing a compendium of draft proposals from subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council requiring action by the Council or brought to its attention (E/1997/L.23 and Add.1 and 2);

(t) Extract from the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its nineteenth session (E/1997/L.25);[7]

(u) Extract from the report of the Commission on Human Settlements on its sixteenth session (E/1997/L.26).[8]

ACTION TAKEN BY THE COUNCIL

44. Under agenda items 7 (a) and (b), the Council adopted resolutions 1997/2, 1997/3, 1997/53, 1997/62, 1997/63 and 1997/65 and decisions 1997/213, 1997/219 to 1997/223, 1997/292 and 1997/305 to 1997/308.

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[5] Ibid., Supplement No. 11 (E/1997/31).

[6] Ibid., Supplement No. 15 (E/1997/35).

[7] For the final report, see Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/52/25).

[8] For the final report, see Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 8 (A/52/8).

Recommendation contained in the report of the Statistical Commission on its twenty-ninth session (E/1997/24)

Report of the Statistical Commission on its twenty-ninth session and provisional agenda and documentation for the thirtieth session of the Commission

45. At the 34th meeting, on 18 July, the Council adopted the draft decision entitled "Report of the Statistical Commission on its twenty-ninth session and provisional agenda and documentation for the thirtieth session of the Commission", recommended by the Statistical Commission (E/1997/24, chap. I, sect. A). See Council decision 1997/219.

Recommendations contained in the report of the Commission on Population and Development on its thirtieth session (E/1997/25)

International migration and development

46. At the 34th meeting, on 18 July, the Council adopted the draft resolution entitled "International migration and development", recommended by the Commission on Population and Development (E/1997/25, chap. I, sect. A). See Council resolution 1997/2.

Report of the Commission on Population and Development on its thirtieth session and provisional agenda and documentation for the thirty-first session of the Commission

47. At the 34th meeting, on 18 July, the Council adopted the draft decision entitled "Report of the Commission on Population and Development on its thirtieth session and provisional agenda and documentation for the thirty-first session of the Commission", recommended by the Commission on Population and Development (E/1997/25, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/220.

Recommendations contained in the report of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on its third session (E/1997/31)

Science and technology for development

48. At the 42nd meeting, on 25 July, the Council considered the draft resolution entitled "Science and technology for development", recommended by the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (E/1997/31, chap. I, sect. A).

49. At the same meeting, the Vice-President of the Council, Mr. Anwarul Karim Chowdhury (Bangladesh) informed the Council of amendments to the draft resolution, which had been agreed upon during informal consultations.

50. The Council then adopted the draft resolution, as orally amended. See Council resolution 1997/62.

Election of members of the Bureau of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development other than the Chairman

51. At the 42nd meeting, on 25 July, the Council considered draft decision I, entitled "Election of the members of the Bureau other than the Chairman", recommended by the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (E/1997/31, chap. I, sect. B).

52. At the same meeting, the Vice-President of the Council, Mr. Anwarul Karim Chowdhury (Bangladesh), informed the Council of amendments to the draft decision, which had been agreed upon during informal consultations.

53. The Council then adopted the draft decision, as orally amended. See Council decision 1997/305.

Report of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on its third session and provisional agenda and documentation for the fourth session of the Commission

54. At the 42nd meeting, on 25 July, the Council considered draft decision II, entitled "Report of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on its third session and provisional agenda and documentation for the fourth session of the Commission", recommended by the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (E/1997/31, chap. I, sect. B).

55. At the same meeting, Mr. Anwarul Karim Chowdhury (Bangladesh), informed the Council of amendments to the draft resolution, which had been agreed upon during the informal consultations.

56. The Council then adopted the draft decision, as orally amended. See Council decision 1997/306.

Recommendation contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (E/1997/16)

Work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

57. At the 34th meeting, on 18 July, the Council adopted the draft resolution entitled "Work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods", recommended by the Committee (E/1997/16, chap. I). See Council resolution 1997/3.

Other recommendations

Seventh United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names

58. At the 4th meeting, on 1 May, the Council decided that the Seventh United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names would be held at United Nations Headquarters in January 1998. See Council decision 1997/213.

Fourteenth and Fifteenth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conferences for Asia and the Pacific

59. At the 34th meeting, on 18 July, the Council endorsed the recommendation of the Fourteenth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific concerning the convening of the Fifteenth Conference and requested the Secretary-General to take measures to implement the other recommendations of the Fourteenth Conference (E/1997/52, paras. 17 (a) and (b)). See Council decision 1997/221.

Fourteenth Meeting of Experts on the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and Finance

60. At the 34th meeting, on 18 July, the Council endorsed the recommendation of the Thirteenth Meeting of Experts on the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and Finance concerning the convening of the Fourteenth Meeting (E/1997/86, para. 75). See Council decision 1997/222.

Report of the Committee for Development Planning on its thirty-first session

61. At the 34th meeting, on 18 July, the Council endorsed the recommendations regarding the list of the least developed countries contained in paragraphs 240 (a) and (b) of the report of the Committee for Development Planning on its thirty-first session (E/1997/35). See Council decision 1997/223.

Sixth and Seventh United Nations Cartographic Conferences for the Americas

62. At the 39th meeting, on 23 July, the Council endorsed the recommendation of the Sixth United Nations Cartographic Conference for the Americas concerning the convening of the Seventh Conference and requested the Secretary-General to promote an ongoing dialogue between member States and other stakeholders to ensure the implementation of the resolutions of the Sixth Conference (E/1997/82, paras. 21 (a) and (b)). See Council decision 1997/292.

Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting and the Intergovernmental Group on Restrictive Business Practices

63. At the 37th meeting, on 22 July, the representative of Brazil introduced a draft resolution (E/1997/L.43) entitled 'Renewal of the mandate of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting'. Subsequently, the Council was informed that the draft resolution was being sponsored by the United Republic of Tanzania,* on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

64. At the 42nd meeting, on 25 July, the Vice-President of the Council, Mr. Anwarul Karim Chowdhury (Bangladesh), made a statement and introduced a draft decision entitled 'Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting and the Intergovernmental Group on Restrictive Business Practices'.

65. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the draft decision. See Council decision 1997/307.

66. In the light of the statement made by the Vice-President of the council, Mr. Chowdhury (Bangladesh), the Council agreed to postpone consideration of draft resolution E/1997/L.43.

Consumer protection

67. At the 35th meeting, on 21 July, the representative of Brazil introduced a draft resolution (E/1997/L.39) entitled 'Consumer protection'.

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* In accordance with rule 72 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council.

68. At the 39th meeting, on 23 July, the Vice-President of the Council, Mr. Anwarul Karim Chowdhury (Bangladesh) orally revised the draft resolution on the basis of informal consultations.

69. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised. See Council resolution 1997/53.

70. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the Council was informed that Argentina, Finland, Japan, Lebanon, Malaysia, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, South Africa and Sweden would like to have joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

Establishment of an ad hoc open-ended Intergovernmental Forum on Forests

71. At the 42nd meeting, on 25 July, the Vice-President of the Council, Mr. Anwarul Karim Chowdhury (Bangladesh) introduced a draft resolution (E/1997/L.49) entitled "Establishment of an ad hoc open-ended Intergovernmental Forum on Forests", submitted on the basis of informal consultations.

72. A statement of the programme budget implications of the draft resolution, submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 31 of the roles of procedure of the Economic and Social Council, was circulated in document E/1997/L.59.

73. At the same meeting, the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran proposed amendments to the draft resolution.

74. The Council was informed that the programme budget implications contained in document E/1997/L.59 did not apply to the proposed draft resolution, as amended.

75. At the same meeting, the Council adopted draft resolution E/1997/L.49, as amended. See Council resolution 1997/65.

76. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Luxembourg (on behalf of the Member States of the European Union), the Russian Federation, Brazil, the United States of America and Canada.

Programme of work of the Commission on Sustainable Development for the period 1998-2002 and future methods of work of the Commission

77. At the 42nd meeting, on 25 July, the Vice-President of the Council Mr. Anwarul Karim Chowdhury (Bangladesh) introduced a draft resolution (E/1997/L.50) entitled "Programme of work of the Commission on Sustainable Development for the period 1998-2002 and future methods of work of the Commission", submitted on the basis of informal consultations.

78. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the draft resolution. See Council resolution 1997/63.

79. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Australia and the United States of America and the observer for Norway.

Documents considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with reports, conclusions and recommendations of the subsidiary bodies: economic questions and environmental questions

80. At the 42nd meeting, on 25 July, the Council, on the proposal of the President, took note of documents considered in cooperation with reports, conclusions and recommendations of subsidiary bodies: economic questions and environmental questions. See Council decision 1997/308.

2. Social questions

81. At its substantive session, the Council considered social questions (agenda item 7 (c)) at its 35th to 37th, 39th and 42nd meetings, from 21 to 23 and on 25 July 1997. An account of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (E/1997/SR.35-37, 39 and 42). The Council had before it the following documents:

(a) Compendium of draft proposals from subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council requiring action by the Council or brought to its attention (E/1997/L.23 and Add.1 and 2);

Advancement of women

(b) Report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its forty-first session (E/1997/27);[9]

(c) Report of the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women on its seventeenth session (E/1997/53);

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on ways and means to enhance the capacity of the Organization and the United Nations system to support the ongoing follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women (E/1997/64);

(e) Statement submitted by the Inter-Parliamentary Union, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (E/1997/NGO/3).

Social development

(f) Report of the Secretary-General and of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on progress in the implementation process of the education for all objectives (A/52/183-E/1997/74);

(g) *Report of the World Social Situation, 1997* (E/1997/15);

(h) Report of the Commission for Social Development on its thirty-fifth session (E/1997/26);[10]

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[9] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1997, Supplement No. 7* (E/1997/27).

[10] Ibid., *Supplement No. 6* (E/1997/26).

(i) Report of the Secretary-General on cooperation of the United Nations with the Government of Portugal in holding the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth, Lisbon, 8-12 August 1998 (E/1997/103);

(j) Letter dated 10 July 1997 from the Secretary of State for Youth of Portugal addressed to the Secretary-General (E/1997/104);

Crime prevention and criminal justice

(k) Report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its sixth session (E/1997/30);[11]

Narcotic drugs

(l) Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its fortieth session (E/1997/28);[12]

(m) Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs acting as the preparatory body for the special session of the General Assembly devoted to the fight against the illicit production, sale, demand, traffic and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and related activities on its first session (E/1997/48);

(n) Summary of the report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 1996 (E/1997/56);

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

(o) Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (E/1997/17 and Corr.1).

ACTION TAKEN BY THE COUNCIL

82. Under agenda item 7 (c), the Council adopted resolutions 1997/16 to 1997/41, 1997/55, 1997/56 and 1997/64 and decisions 1997/227 to 1997/239.

Recommendations contained in the report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its forty-first session (E/1997/27)

Palestinian women

83. At the 36th meeting, on 21 July, the Council voted on draft resolution I, entitled "Palestinian women", recommended by the Commission on the Status of Women (E/1997/27, chap. I, sect. A). The draft resolution was adopted by a roll-call vote of 44 to 1. See Council resolution 1997/16. The voting was as follows:[13]

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[11] To be issued as Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1997, Supplement No. 10 (E/1997/30).

[12] Ibid., Supplement No. 8 (E/1997/28).

[13] The delegation of Jamaica subsequently indicated that, had it been present during the voting, it would have voted in favour of the draft resolution.

In favour: Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Belarus, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Czech Republic, Djibouti, El Salvador, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Iceland, India, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mexico, Mozambique, Netherlands, Philippines, Poland, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Against: United States of America.

Abstaining: None.

84. Before the draft resolution was adopted, the representative of the United States of America made a statement.

Agreed conclusions of the Commission on the Status of Women on critical areas of concern identified in the Beijing Platform for Action

85. At the 36th meeting, on 21 July, the Council adopted draft resolution II, entitled "Agreed conclusions on the critical areas of concern", recommended by the Commission on the Status of Women (E/1997/27, chap. I, sect. A). See Council resolution 1997/17.

Renewal of the mandate of the Open-ended Working Group on the Elaboration of a Draft Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

86. At the 36th meeting, on 21 July, the Council adopted draft decision I, entitled "Renewal of the mandate of the Open-ended Working Group on the Elaboration of a Draft Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women", recommended by the Commission on the Status of Women (E/1997/27, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/227.

Work of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council engaged in the follow-up to United Nations conferences

87. At the 36th meeting, on 21 July, the Council adopted draft decision II, entitled "Functional commissions", recommended by the Commission on the Status of Women (E/1997/27, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/228.

Report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its forty-first session and provisional agenda and documentation for the forty-second session of the Commission

88. At the 36th meeting, on 21 July, the Council adopted draft decision III, entitled "Report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its forty-first session and provisional agenda and documentation for the forty-second session of the Commission", recommended by the Commission on the Status of Women (E/1997/27, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/229.

Recommendations contained in the report of the Commission for Social Development on its thirty-fifth session (E/1997/26)

International Year of Older Persons: towards a society for all ages

89. At the 36th meeting, on 21 July, the Council approved draft resolution I, entitled "International Year of Older Persons: towards a society for all ages", recommended by the Commission for Social Development (E/1997/26, chap. I, sect. A) for adoption by the General Assembly. See Council resolution 1997/18.

Equalization of opportunities for persons with disabilities

90. At the 36th meeting, on 21 July, the Council adopted draft resolution II, entitled "Equalization of opportunities for persons with disabilities" recommended by the Commission for Social Development (E/1997/26, chap. I, sect. A). See Council resolution 1997/19.

Children with disabilities

91. At the 36th meeting, on 21 July, the Council adopted draft resolution III, entitled "Children with disabilities" recommended by the Commission for Social Development (E/1997/26, chap. I, sect. A). See Council resolution 1997/20.

Implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond, including a World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth

92. At the 36th meeting, on 21 July, on the proposal of the President, the Council agreed to postpone consideration of draft resolution IV, entitled "Implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond, including a World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth", recommended by the Commission for Social Development (E/1997/26, chap. I, sect. A).

93. At the 39th meeting, on 23 July, the observer for Portugal* introduced amendments (E/1997/L.29) to the draft resolution.

94. At the same meeting, the Council adopted draft resolution IV, as amended. See Council resolution 1997/55.

Follow-up to the International Year of the Family

95. At the 36th meeting, on 21 July, the Council approved draft resolution V, entitled "Follow-up to the International Year of the Family", recommended by the Commission for Social Development (E/1997/26, chap. I, sect. A) for adoption by the General Assembly. See Council resolution 1997/21.

Report of the Commission for Social Development on its thirty-fifth session and provisional agenda and documentation for the thirty-sixth session of the Commission

96. At the 36th meeting, on 21 July, the Council adopted the draft decision entitled "Report of the Commission for Social Development on its thirty-fifth session and provisional agenda and documentation for the thirty-sixth session of

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* In accordance with rule 72 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council.

the Commission", recommended by the Commission for Social Development (E/1997/26, chap. I, sect. B). See Council resolution 1997/230.

Confirmation of members of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

97. At the 36th meeting, on 21 July, the Council decided to confirm the candidates listed in Commission for Social Development decision 35/101 (E/1997/26, chap. I, sect. C) for membership in the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development. See Council decision 1997/231.

First regional meeting convened by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean to evaluate the World Summit for Social Development

98. At the 37th meeting, on 22 July, the representative of Brazil, on behalf of Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador,* El Salvador, Haiti,* Jamaica, Mexico, Peru,* Portugal,* Spain, the United States of America, Uruguay* and Venezuela*, introduced a draft resolution (E/1997/L.41) entitled "First regional meeting convened by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean to evaluate the World Summit for Social Development".

99. At the 39th meeting, on 23 July, the Council adopted the draft resolution. See Council resolution 1997/56.

100. Before and after the draft resolution was adopted, the representative of Luxembourg made a statement on behalf of the States members of the European Union; after it was adopted, a statement was made by the representative of Canada.

Recommendations contained in the report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its sixth session (E/1997/30)

Follow-up to the Naples Political Declaration and Global Action Plan against Organized Transnational Crime

101. At the 36th meeting, on 21 July, the Council approved draft resolution I, entitled "Follow-up to the Naples Political Declaration and Global Action Plan against Organized Transnational Crime", recommended by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (E/1997/30, chap. I, sect. A) for adoption by the General Assembly. See Council resolution 1997/22.

Preparations for the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

102. At the 36th meeting, on 21 July, the Council approved draft resolution II, entitled "Preparations for the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders", recommended by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (E/1997/30, chap. I, sect. A) for adoption by the General Assembly. See Council resolution 1997/23.

Crime prevention and criminal justice measures to eliminate violence against women

103. At the 36th meeting, on 21 July, the Council approved draft resolution III, entitled "Crime prevention and criminal justice measures to eliminate violence against women", recommended by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal

Justice (E/1997/30, chap. I, sect. A) for adoption by the General Assembly. See Council resolution 1997/24.

International cooperation against corruption and bribery in international commercial transactions

104. At the 36th meeting, on 21 July, the Council approved draft resolution IV, entitled "International cooperation against corruption and bribery in international commercial transactions", recommended by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (E/1997/30, chap. I, sect. A) for adoption by the General Assembly. See Council resolution 1997/25.

International cooperation in criminal matters

105. At the 36th meeting, on 21 July, the Council approved draft resolution V, entitled "International cooperation in criminal matters", recommended by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (E/1997/30, chap. I, sect. A) for adoption by the General Assembly. See Council resolution 1997/26.

Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme with regard to the development of crime statistics and the operations of criminal justice systems

106. At the 36th meeting, on 21 July, the Council adopted draft resolution I, entitled "Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme with regard to the development of crime statistics and the operations of criminal justice systems", recommended by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (E/1997/30, chap. I, sect. B). See Council resolution 1997/27.

Firearm regulation for purposes of crime prevention and public health and safety

107. At the 36th meeting, on 21 July, the Council adopted draft resolution II, entitled "Firearm regulation for purposes of crime prevention and public health and safety", recommended by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (E/1997/30, chap. I, sect. B). See Council resolution 1997/28.

Measures on the prevention and control of illicit trafficking in motor vehicles

108. At the 36th meeting, on 21 July, the Council adopted draft resolution III, entitled "Measures on the prevention and control of illicit trafficking in motor vehicles", recommended by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (E/1997/30, chap. I, sect. B). See Council resolution 1997/29.

Administration of juvenile justice

109. At the 36th meeting, on 21 July, the Council adopted draft resolution IV, entitled "Administration of juvenile justice", recommended by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (E/1997/30, chap. I, sect. B). See Council resolution 1997/30.

Victims of crime and abuse of power

110. At the 36th meeting, on 21 July, the Council adopted draft resolution V, entitled "Victims of crime and abuse of power", recommended by the Commission on

Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (E/1997/30, chap. I, sect. B). See Council resolution 1997/31.

United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice

111. At the 36th meeting, on 21 July, the Council adopted draft resolution VI, entitled "United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice", recommended by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (E/1997/30, chap. I, sect. B). See Council resolution 1997/32.

Elements of responsible crime prevention: standards and norms

112. At the 36th meeting, on 21 July, the Council adopted draft resolution VII, entitled "Elements of responsible crime prevention: standards and norms", recommended by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (E/1997/30, chap. I, sect. B). See Council resolution 1997/33.

Implementation of the United Nations Declaration on Crime and Public Security

113. At the 36th meeting, on 21 July, the Council adopted draft resolution VIII, entitled "Implementation of the United Nations Declaration on Crime and Public Security", recommended by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (E/1997/30, chap. I, sect. B). See Council resolution 1997/34.

Technical cooperation and international advisory services in crime prevention and criminal justice

114. At the 36th meeting, on 21 July, the Council adopted draft resolution IX, entitled "Technical cooperation and international advisory services in crime prevention and criminal justice", recommended by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (E/1997/30, chap. I, sect. B). See Council resolution 1997/35.

International cooperation for the improvement of prison conditions

115. At the 36th meeting, on 21 July, the Council adopted draft resolution X, entitled "International cooperation for the improvement of prison conditions", recommended by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (E/1997/30, chap. I, sect. B). See Council resolution 1997/36.

Report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its sixth session, organization of work and themes for future sessions, and provisional agenda and documentation for the seventh session of the Commission

116. At the 36th meeting, on 21 July, the Council adopted the draft decision entitled "Report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its sixth session, organization of work and themes for future sessions, and provisional agenda and documentation for the seventh session of the Commission", recommended by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (E/1997/30, chap. I, sect. C). See Council decision 1997/232.

Recommendations contained in the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its fortieth session (E/1997/28)

Review of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme: strengthening the United Nations machinery for international drug control within the scope of the existing international drug control treaties and in accordance with the basic principles of the Charter of the United Nations

117. At the 36th meeting, on 21 July, the Council considered draft resolution I, entitled "Review of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme: strengthening the United Nations machinery for international drug control within the scope of the existing international drug control treaties and in accordance with the basic principles of the Charter of the United Nations", recommended by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (E/1997/28, chap. I, sect. A). A statement of the programme budget implications of the draft resolution is contained in annex III to the report of the Commission (E/1997/28).

118. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the draft resolution. See Council resolution 1997/37.

Demand for and supply of opiates for medical and scientific needs

119. At the 36th meeting, on 21 July, the Council adopted draft resolution II, entitled "Demand for and supply of opiates for medical and scientific needs", recommended by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (E/1997/28, chap. I, sect. A). See Council resolution 1997/38.

Baku Accord on Regional Cooperation against Illicit Cultivation, Production, Trafficking, Distribution and Consumption of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances and their Precursors

120. At the 36th meeting, on 21 July, the Council adopted draft resolution III, entitled "Baku Accord on Regional Cooperation against Illicit Cultivation, Production, Trafficking, Distribution and Consumption of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances and their Precursors", recommended by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (E/1997/28, chap. I, sect. A). See Council resolution 1997/39.

Working languages of the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East

121. At the 42nd meeting, on 25 July, the Council considered draft resolution IV, entitled "Working languages of the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East", recommended by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (E/1997/28, chap. I, sect. A). An explanation of possible financial implications of the draft resolution is contained in annex IV to the report of the Commission (E/1997/28).

122. At the same meeting, the President informed the Council that the draft resolution had in fact no programme budget implications. The Council then adopted the draft resolution. See Council resolution 1997/64.

Contribution to the strengthening of the Global Programme of Action: anti-drug strategy in the Americas

123. At the 36th meeting, on 21 July, the Council adopted draft resolution V, entitled "Contribution to the strengthening of the Global Programme of Action:

anti-drug strategy in the Americas", recommended by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (E/1997/28, chap. I, sect. A). See Council resolution 1997/40.

124. Before the draft resolution was adopted, the representative of Cuba made a statement.

Implementation of comprehensive measures to counter the illicit manufacture, trafficking and abuse of amphetamine-type stimulants and their precursors

125. At the 36th meeting, on 21 July, the Council adopted draft resolution VI, entitled "Implementation of comprehensive measures to counter the illicit manufacture, trafficking and abuse of amphetamine-type stimulants and their precursors", recommended by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (E/1997/28, chap. I, sect. A). See Council resolution 1997/41.

Provisional agenda and documentation for the forty-first session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs

126. At the 36th meeting, on 21 July, the Council adopted draft decision I, entitled "Provisional agenda and documentation for the forty-first session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs", recommended by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (E/1997/28, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/233.

Organization of the work of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its forty-first session

127. At the 36th meeting, on 21 July, the Council adopted draft decision II, entitled "Organization of work of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its forty-first session", recommended by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (E/1997/28, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/234.

Initial programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999 and second and final revision of the programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997 for the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme

128. At the 36th meeting, on 21 July, the Council adopted draft decision III, entitled "Initial programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999 and second and final revision of the programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997 for the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme", recommended by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (E/1997/28, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/235.

Report of the International Narcotics Control Board

129. At the 36th meeting, on 21 July, the Council adopted draft decision IV, entitled "Report of the International Narcotics Control Board", recommended by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (E/1997/28, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/236.

Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs

130. At the 36th meeting, on 21 July, the Council adopted draft decision V, entitled "Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs", recommended by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (E/1997/28, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/237.

Recommendations contained in the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs acting as the preparatory body for the special session of the General Assembly devoted to the fight against the illicit production, sale, demand, traffic and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and related activities on its first session (E/1997/48)

Dates for the special session of the General Assembly devoted to the fight against the illicit production, sale, demand, traffic and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and related activities

131. At the 36th meeting, on 21 July, the Council adopted draft decision I, entitled "Dates for the special session of the General Assembly devoted to the fight against the illicit production, sale, demand, traffic and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and related activities", recommended by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs acting as the preparatory body for the special session of the General Assembly (E/1997/48, chap. I, sect. A). See Council decision 1997/238.

Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs acting as the preparatory body for the special session of the General Assembly devoted to the fight against the illicit production, sale, demand, traffic and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and related activities on its first session and provisional agenda for the second session

132. At the 36th meeting, on 21 July, the Council adopted draft decision II, entitled "Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, acting as the preparatory body for the special session of the General Assembly devoted to the fight against the illicit production, sale, demand, traffic and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and related activities, on its first session, and provisional agenda for the second session", recommended by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs acting as the preparatory body for the special session of the General Assembly (E/1997/48, chap. I, sect. A). See Council decision 1997/239.

3. Human rights questions

133. At its substantive session, the Council considered human rights questions (agenda item 7 (d)) at its 37th to 40th meetings, on 22 and 23 July 1997. An account of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (E/1997/SR.37-40). It had before it the following documents:

(a) Statement by the Chairman of the delegation of Indonesia to the 1997 substantive session of the Economic and Social Council (A/52/256-E/1997/108);

(b) Letter dated 11 April 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (E/1997/21);

(c) Report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its fourteenth and fifteenth sessions (E/1997/22);[14]

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[14] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1997, Supplement No. 2* (E/1997/22).

(d) Report of the Commission on Human Rights on its fifty-third session (E/1997/23);[15]

(e) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (E/1997/87);

(f) Letter dated 11 July 1997 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the President of the Economic and Social Council (E/1997/102);

(g) Letter dated 18 July 1997 from the Deputy Permanent Representative of the United States of America addressed to the President of the Council (E/1997/105);

(h) Joint statement on the question of the death penalty, submitted by Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, China, Cuba, Egypt, Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, the Sudan, Swaziland, the Syrian Arab Republic, the United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Zimbabwe (E/1997/106);

(i) Letter dated 23 July 1997 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the President of the Economic and Social Council (E/1997/107);

(j) Compendium of draft proposals from subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council requiring action by the Council or brought to its attention (E/1997/L.23 and Add.1 and 2);

(k) Statement of the administrative and programme budget implications of the draft decisions recommended for adoption by the Economic and Social Council in document E/1997/L.23 and Add.2, submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 31 of the rules of procedure of the Council (E/1997/L.44).

(l) Statement submitted by the Inter-Parliamentary Union, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (E/1997/NGO/2).

ACTION TAKEN BY THE COUNCIL

134. Under agenda item 7 (d), the Council adopted resolutions 1997/49 to 1997/51 and decisions 1997/240 to 1997/291 and 1997/293.

Reports considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with human rights questions

135. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, on the proposal of the President, the Council took note of the report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its fourteenth and fifteenth sessions (E/1997/22) and the report of the Secretary-General on implementation of the Programme of Action for

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[15] Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1997, Supplement No. 3 (E/1997/23).

the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (E/1997/87). See Council decision 1997/240.

Recommendations contained in the report of the Commission on Human Rights on its fifty-third session (E/1997/23)

Question of a draft optional protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

136. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council adopted draft resolution I, entitled "Question of a draft optional protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. A). See Council resolution 1997/49.

Working group of the Commission on Human Rights to elaborate a draft declaration in accordance with paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 49/214

137. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council adopted draft resolution II, entitled "Working group of the Commission on Human Rights to elaborate a draft declaration in accordance with paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 49/214 of 23 December 1994", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. A). See Council resolution 1997/50.

Question of a draft declaration on the right and responsibility of individuals, groups and organs of society to promote and protect universally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms

138. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council adopted draft resolution III, entitled "Question of a draft declaration on the right and responsibility of individuals, groups and organs of society to promote and protect universally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. A). See Council resolution 1997/51.

Effects of the economic adjustment policies arising from foreign debt on the full enjoyment of human rights and, in particular, on the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development

139. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council voted on draft decision 1, entitled "Effects on the full enjoyment of human rights of the economic adjustment policies arising from foreign debt and, in particular, on the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). The draft decision was adopted by a roll-call vote of 27 to 17, with 4 abstentions. See Council decision 1997/241. The voting was as follows:[16]

In favour: Bangladesh, Brazil, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Djibouti, El Salvador, India, Jamaica, Jordan, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mexico, Mozambique, Nicaragua, South

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[16] The delegation of Latvia subsequently indicated that, had it been present during the voting, it would have voted against the draft decision.

Africa, Spain,[17] Sri Lanka, Sudan, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda.

Against: Australia, Belarus, Canada, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining: Argentina, Gabon, Philippines, Republic of Korea.

140. Before the draft decision was adopted, the representative of Luxembourg made a statement on behalf of the States members of the European Union.

Human rights and extreme poverty

141. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council adopted draft decision 2, entitled "Human rights and extreme poverty", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/242.

Migrants and human rights

142. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council adopted draft decision 3, entitled "Migrants and human rights", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/243.

Question of the realization in all countries of the economic, social and cultural rights contained in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and study of special problems which the developing countries face in their efforts to achieve these human rights

143. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council adopted draft decision 4, entitled "Question of the realization in all countries of the economic, social and cultural rights contained in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and study of special problems which the developing countries face in their efforts to achieve these human rights", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/244.

Implementation of the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief

144. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council adopted draft decision 5, entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/245.

Independence and impartiality of the judiciary, jurors and assessors and the independence of lawyers

145. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council adopted draft decision 6, entitled "Independence and impartiality of the judiciary, jurors and assessors

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[17] The delegation of Spain subsequently stated that his delegation had intended to vote against the draft decision, and not in favour.

and the independence of lawyers", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/246.

United Nations staff

146. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council adopted draft decision 7, entitled "United Nations staff", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/247.

Permanent forum for indigenous people in the United Nations system

147. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council adopted draft decision 8, entitled "A permanent forum for indigenous people in the United Nations system", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/248.

Working Group on Indigenous Populations of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities and the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

148. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council adopted draft decision 9, entitled "Working Group on Indigenous Populations of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities and the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/249.

Human rights and thematic procedures

149. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council adopted draft decision 10, entitled "Human rights and thematic procedures", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/250.

Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

150. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council adopted draft decision 11, entitled "Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/251.

Internally displaced persons

151. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council adopted draft decision 12, entitled "Internally displaced persons", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/252.

National institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights

152. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council adopted draft decision 13, entitled "National institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/253.

Development of public information activities in the field of human rights, including the World Public Information Campaign for Human Rights

153. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council adopted draft decision 14, entitled "Development of public information activities in the field of human

rights, including the World Public Information Campaign for Human Rights", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/254.

Elimination of violence against women

154. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council adopted draft decision 15, entitled "The elimination of violence against women", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/255.

Regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights in the Asia and Pacific region

155. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council adopted draft decision 16, entitled "Regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights in the Asia and Pacific region", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/256.

Advisory services, technical cooperation and the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights

156. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council adopted draft decision 17, entitled "Advisory services, technical cooperation and the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/257.

Assistance to Somalia in the field of human rights

157. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council adopted draft decision 18, entitled "Assistance to Somalia in the field of human rights", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/258.

Situation of human rights in Cambodia

158. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council adopted draft decision 19, entitled "Situation of human rights in Cambodia", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/259.

Question of arbitrary detention

159. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council adopted draft decision 20, entitled "Question of arbitrary detention", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/260.

Assistance to Guatemala in the field of human rights

160. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council adopted draft decision 21, entitled "Assistance to Guatemala in the field of human rights", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/261.

Situation of human rights in Haiti

161. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council adopted draft decision 22, entitled 'Situation of human rights in Haiti', recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/262.

Situation of human rights in Nigeria

162. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council adopted draft decision 23, entitled 'Situation of human rights in Nigeria', recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/263.

Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran

163. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council voted on draft decision 24, entitled 'Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran', recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). The draft decision was adopted by a roll-call vote of 24 to 6, with 18 abstentions. See Council decision 1997/264. The voting was as follows:

In favour:	Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Czech Republic, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Jamaica, Japan, Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.
Against:	Bangladesh, China, Cuba, India, Malaysia, Sudan.
Abstaining:	Belarus, Cape Verde, Colombia, Djibouti, Gabon, Jordan, Latvia, Lebanon, Mozambique, Philippines, Republic of Korea, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda.

Human rights situation in southern Lebanon and West Bekaa

164. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council voted on draft decision 25, entitled 'Human rights situation in southern Lebanon and West Bekaa', recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). The draft decision was adopted by a roll-call vote of 46 to 1, with 1 abstention. See Council decision 1997/265. The voting was as follows:

In favour:	Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Belarus, Brazil, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, Czech Republic, Djibouti, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, India, Jamaica Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mexico, Mozambique, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Philippines, Poland, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
Against:	United States of America.
Abstaining:	Gabon.

Situation of human rights in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro)

165. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council adopted draft decision 26, entitled "Situation of human rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro)", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/266.

Situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo*

166. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council adopted draft decision 27, entitled "Situation of human rights in Zaire", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/267.

167. After the draft decision was adopted, the representative of Luxembourg made a statement on behalf of the States members of the European Union.

Situation of human rights in the Sudan

168. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, at the request of the representative of the Sudan, the Council voted on draft decision 28, entitled "Situation of human rights in the Sudan", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). The draft decision was adopted by a roll-call vote of 31 to 3, with 14 abstentions. See Council decision 1997/268. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Argentina, Australia, Belarus, Brazil, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Czech Republic, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Jamaica, Japan, Latvia, Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: China, Cuba, Sudan.

Abstaining: Bangladesh, Djibouti, Gabon, India, Jordan, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mozambique, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia.

Situation of human rights in Iraq

169. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council adopted draft decision 29, entitled "Situation of human rights in Iraq", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap.I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/269.

Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions

170. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council adopted draft decision 30, entitled "Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/270.

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* The name of the Member State known formerly as Zaire was changed on 17 May 1997 to "Democratic Republic of the Congo".

Situation of human rights in Cuba

171. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council voted on draft decision 31, entitled "Human rights in Cuba", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). The draft decision was adopted by a roll-call vote of 20 to 8, with 21 abstentions. See Council decision 1997/271. The voting was as follows:

In favour:	Australia, Canada, Chile, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Poland, Republic of Korea, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.
Against:	Belarus, China, Cuba, India, South Africa, Sudan, Uganda, Zambia.
Abstaining:	Argentina, Bangladesh, Brazil, Cape Verde, Colombia, Djibouti, El Salvador, Gabon, Jamaica, Jordan, Latvia, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mexico, Mozambique, Philippines, Russian Federation, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia.

172. Before the draft decision was adopted, the representative of Cuba made a statement; after it was adopted, the representative of the United States of America made a statement.

Situation of human rights in Myanmar

173. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council adopted draft decision 32, entitled "Situation of human rights in Myanmar", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/272.

Situation of human rights in Afghanistan

174. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council adopted draft decision 33, entitled "Situation of human rights in Afghanistan", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/273.

Situation of human rights in Rwanda

175. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council adopted draft decision 34, entitled "Situation of human rights in Rwanda", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/274.

Situation of human rights in Equatorial Guinea and assistance in the field of human rights

176. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council adopted draft decision 35, entitled "Situation of human rights in Equatorial Guinea and assistance in the field of human rights", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/275.

The right to development

177. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council adopted draft decision 36, entitled 'Right to development', recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/276.

Measures to combat contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

178. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council adopted draft decision 37, entitled 'Measures to combat contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance', recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/277.

Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

179. At the 39th meeting, on 23 July, the Council considered draft decision 38, entitled 'Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance', recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B).

180. At the same meeting, the Council had before it proposed amendments to the draft decision (E/1997/L.47), submitted by the United States of America. The proposed amendments, as orally corrected by the Secretary of the Council, read as follows:

> '1. In the second unlettered paragraph, replace the words 'endorses the Commission's decision' by the word 'decides' and insert the words 'or special session of the General Assembly' after the words 'world conference'.
>
> '2. In the third unlettered paragraph, replace the words 'also endorses the Commission's recommendations' by the words 'further recommends'.
>
> '3. Following the third unlettered paragraph, in subparagraphs (a)-(d) and (f), insert the words 'or special session of the General Assembly' after the words 'world conference' wherever they occur.
>
> '4. Following the third unlettered paragraph, in subparagraph (e) insert the words 'or the special session' after the words 'the conference'.
>
> '5. In the last paragraph, insert the words 'or special session of the General Assembly' after the words 'world conference'.'

181. At the 39th meeting, on 23 July, statements were made on the proposed amendments by the representatives of the United States of America and Uganda, who also requested a vote on the proposed amendments, and by the observer for the United Republic of Tanzania on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

182. At the same meeting, following statements by the representatives of Luxembourg (on behalf of the States members of the European Union), Canada and Australia, the Council rejected the proposed amendments contained in document E/1997/L.47 by a roll-call vote of 27 to 1, with 21 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour: United States of America.

Against: Argentina, Bangladesh, Brazil, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, Djibouti, Gabon, India, Jamaica, Jordan, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mexico, Mozambique, Philippines, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Zambia.

Abstaining: Australia, Belarus, Canada, Czech Republic, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Japan, Latvia, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Poland, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

183. Also at the 39th meeting, the Council adopted draft decision 38, as recommended by the Commission on Human Rights. See Council decision 1997/293.

184. After the draft decision was adopted, the representative of the United States of America made a statement.

Human rights and mass exoduses

185. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council adopted draft decision 39, entitled "Human rights and mass exoduses", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/278.

Strengthening the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

186. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council adopted draft decision 40, entitled "Strengthening of the Office of the High Commissioner/Centre for Human Rights", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/279.

Situation of human rights in Burundi

187. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council adopted draft decision 41, entitled "Situation of human rights in Burundi", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/280.

Rights of the child

188. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council adopted draft decision 42, entitled "Rights of the child", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/281.

Human rights and the environment

189. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council adopted draft decision 43, entitled "Human rights and the environment", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/282.

Effects of structural adjustment policies on the full enjoyment of human rights

190. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, Council voted on draft decision 44, entitled "Effects of structural adjustment policies on the full enjoyment of

human rights", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). The draft decision was adopted by a roll-call vote of 29 to 19, with 1 abstention. See Council decision 1997/283. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Bangladesh, Brazil, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, Djibouti, El Salvador, Gabon, India, Jamaica, Jordan, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mexico, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Philippines, Republic of Korea, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Zambia.

Against: Australia, Belarus, Canada, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Japan, Latvia, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining: Argentina.

Traditional practices affecting the health of women and children

191. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council adopted draft decision 45, entitled "Traditional practices affecting the health of women and children", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/284.

The right to a fair trial

192. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council adopted draft decision 46, entitled "The right to a fair trial", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/285.

Question of human rights and states of emergency

193. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council adopted draft decision 47, entitled "Question of human rights and states of emergency", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/286.

Protection of the heritage of indigenous people

194. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council adopted draft decision 48, entitled "Protection of the heritage of indigenous people", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/287.

Study on treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements between States and indigenous populations

195. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council adopted draft decision 49, entitled "Study on treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements between States and indigenous populations", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/288.

Study on indigenous land rights

196. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council adopted draft decision 50, entitled "Study on indigenous land rights", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/289.

Organization of the work of the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-fourth session

197. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council adopted draft decision 51, entitled "Organization of the work of the fifty-fourth session", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/290.

Dates of the fifty-fourth session of the Commission on Human Rights

198. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the Council adopted draft decision 52, entitled "Organization of the work of the fifty-fourth session", recommended by the Commission on Human Rights (E/1997/23, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/291.

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199. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the representative of the United States of America made a statement regarding the draft decisions adopted on the recommendation of the Commission on Human Rights.

Recommendations contained in the report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its sixteenth session

200. At the 39th meeting, on 23 July, the Council considered four draft decisions recommended for adoption by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights at its sixteenth session. The texts of the draft decisions were contained in the compendium of draft proposals from subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council (see E/1997/L.23 and Add.2). A statement of the programme budget implications of the draft decisions, submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 31 of the rules of procedure of the Council, was circulated in document E/1997/L.44.

201. At the same meeting, following statements by the representatives of Luxembourg (on behalf of the States members of the European Union) and Canada, as well as by the representative of the Financial Resources Management Service of the United Nations Office at Geneva, the Council agreed to defer consideration of the four draft decisions to a resumed session.

D. Special economic, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance

202. At its substantive session, the Council considered the question of special economic, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance (agenda item 8) at its 31st meeting, on 17 July 1997. An account of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary record (E/1997/SR.31). The Council had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on assistance for the reconstruction and development of Lebanon (E/1997/96);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General containing a review of the capacity of the United Nations system for humanitarian assistance (E/1997/98).

ACTION TAKEN BY THE COUNCIL

203. Under agenda item 8, the Council adopted decision 1997/218.

Reports considered by the Council in connection with the question of special economic, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance

204. At its thirty-first meeting, on 17 July, the Council took note of reports considered in connection with the question of special economic, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance. See Council decision 1997/218.

E. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

205. At its substantive session, the Council considered the question of the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations (agenda item 9) at its 40th and 42nd meetings, on 23 and 25 July 1997. An account of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (E/1997/SR.40 and 42). The Council had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to the Palestinian people (A/52/159-E/1997/69);

(b) Letter dated 9 June 1997 from the Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People to the Secretary-General (A/52/179-E/1997/76);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations (A/52/185);

(d) Report of the President of the Council on consultations held with the Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (E/1997/81 and Add.1).

ACTION TAKEN BY THE COUNCIL

206. Under agenda item 9, the Council adopted resolution 1997/66 and decision 1997/294.

Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

207. At the 40th meeting, on 23 July, the representative of Cuba, on behalf of Cuba, the Islamic Republic of Iran,* Lebanon, Namibia,* South Africa, the Sudan, Swaziland,* the Syrian Arab Republic,* Tunisia and the United Republic of Tanzania,* introduced a draft resolution (E/1997/L.48) entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations". Subsequently China joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

208. At the 42nd meeting, on 25 July, the Council adopted the draft resolution by a roll-call vote of 28 to none, with 18 abstentions. See Council resolution 1997/66. The voting was as follows:[18]

In favour: Argentina, Bangladesh, Brazil, Chile, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Djibouti, El Salvador, India, Jamaica, Jordan, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mexico, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Philippines, Republic of Korea, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda.

Against: None.

Abstaining: Australia, Canada, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Japan, Latvia, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

209. After the draft resolution was adopted, statements were made by the representatives of the United States of America and the Russian Federation.

Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to the Palestinian people

210. At the 40th meeting, on 23 July, on the proposal of the President, the Council took note of the report of the Secretary-General on assistance to the Palestinian people (A/51/159-E/1997/69). See Council decision 1997/294.

F. Regional cooperation

211. At its substantive session, the Council considered the question of regional cooperation (agenda item 10) at its 27th, 28th, 33rd, 34th, 37th and 39th meetings, on 15, 18, 22 and 23 July 1997. An account of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (E/1997/SR.27, 28, 33, 34 and 39). The Council had before it the following documents:

(a) Note by the Secretary-General on reform of the United Nations and its impact on the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (E/1997/5);

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* In accordance with rule 72 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council.

[18] The delegation of Zambia subsequently indicated that, had it been present during the voting, it would have voted in favour of the draft resolution.

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on regional cooperation in the economic, social and related fields (E/1997/40 and Add.1);

(c) Summary of the survey of economic and social conditions in Africa, 1996 (E/1997/41);

(d) Summary of the economic survey of Europe, 1996 (E/1997/42);

(e) Summary of the economic survey of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1996 (E/1997/43);

(f) Summary of the survey of economic and social conditions in Asia and the Pacific, 1997 (E/1997/44);

(g) Summary of the survey of economic and social developments in the ESCWA region, 1996-1997 (E/1997/45);

(h) Note by the Secretary-General on the project for a Europe-Africa permanent link through the Strait of Gibraltar (E/1997/51).

212. At its 27th meeting, on 15 July, the Council held a panel discussion with the Executive Secretaries of the regional commissions on the question of review and reform of the regional commissions. An account of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary record (E/1997/SR.27).

ACTION TAKEN BY THE COUNCIL

213. Under agenda item 10, the Council adopted resolutions 1997/4 to 1997/15, 1997/48 and 1997/54 and decisions 1997/224 to 1997/226 and 1997/314.

Europe-Africa permanent link through the Strait of Gibraltar

214. At the 33rd meeting, on 18 July, the observer for Morocco,* also on behalf of France and Spain, introduced a draft resolution (E/1997/L.33) entitled "Europe-Africa permanent link through the Strait of Gibraltar".

215. At the 37th meeting, on 22 July, the Vice-President of the Council, Mr. Anwarul Karim Chowdhury (Bangladesh), informed the Council of the outcome of the informal consultations held on the draft resolution.

216. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the draft resolution. See Council resolution 1997/48.

Recommendations made by the regional commissions

217. The recommendations made by the regional commissions are contained in the addendum to the report of the Secretary-General on regional cooperation (E/1997/40/Add.1).

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* In accordance with rule 72 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council.

Declaration on the Strengthening of Economic Cooperation in Europe and Plan of Action

218. At the 34th meeting, on 18 July, the Council adopted draft decision I, entitled "Declaration on the Strengthening of Economic Cooperation in Europe and Plan of Action", recommended by the Economic Commission for Europe (E/1997/40/Add.1, chap. I, sect. A). See Council decision 1997/224.

Economic Commission for Europe Recommendation 25, entitled "Use of the UN/EDIFACT Standard"

219. At the 34th meeting, on 18 July, the Council adopted draft decision II, entitled "Economic Commission for Europe Recommendation 25: Use of the UN/EDIFACT Standard", recommended by the Commission (E/1997/40/Add.1, chap I, sect. A). See Council decision 1997/225.

United Nations Framework Classification for Reserves/Resources: Solid Fuels and Mineral Commodities

220. At the 34th meeting, on 18 July, the Council adopted draft decision III, entitled "United Nations Framework Classification for Reserves/Resources: Solid Fuels and Mineral Commodities", recommended by the Economic Commission for Europe (E/1997/40/Add.1, chap. I, sect. A). See Council decision 1997/226.

Restructuring the conference structure of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

221. At the 34th meeting, on 18 July, the Council adopted the draft resolution entitled "Restructuring the conference structure of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific", recommended by the Commission (E/1997/40/Add.1, chap. I, sect. B). See Council resolution 1997/4.

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in the context of reform of the United Nations

222. At the 39th meeting, on 23 July, the Council adopted the draft resolution entitled "Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in the context of reform of the United Nations", recommended by the Commission (E/1997/40/Add.1, chap. I, sect. C). See Council resolution 1997/54.

Reform of the intergovernmental machinery of the Economic Commission for Africa

223. At the 34th meeting, on 18 July, the Council adopted draft resolution I, entitled "Reform of the intergovernmental machinery of the Economic Commission for Africa", recommended by the Commission (E/1997/40/Add.1, chap. I, sect. D). See Council resolution 1997/5.

Programme of work and priorities of the Economic Commission for Africa for the biennium 1998-1999

224. At the 34th meeting, on 18 July, the Council adopted draft resolution II, entitled "Programme of work and priorities of the Economic Commission for Africa for the biennium 1998-1999", recommended by the Commission (E/1997/40/Add.1, chap. I, sect. D). See Council resolution 1997/6.

Programme of work and priorities of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia for the biennium 1996-1997

225. At the 34th meeting, on 18 July, the Council adopted draft resolution I, entitled "Programme of work and priorities of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia for the biennium 1996-1997", recommended by the Commission (E/1997/40/Add.1, chap. I, sect. E). See Council resolution 1997/7.

Medium-term plan of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia for the period 1998-2001

226. At the 34th meeting, on 18 July, the Council adopted draft resolution II, entitled "Medium-term plan of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia for the period 1998-2001", recommended by the Commission (E/1997/40/Add.1, chap. I, sect. E). See Council resolution 1997/8.

Programme of work and priorities of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia for the biennium 1998-1999

227. At the 34th meeting, on 18 July, the Council adopted draft resolution III, entitled "Programme of work and priorities of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia for the biennium 1998-1999", recommended by the Commission (E/1997/40/Add.1, chap. I, sect. E). See Council resolution 1997/9.

Change in the frequency of the sessions of the Committee on Water Resources of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

228. At the 34th meeting, on 18 July, the Council adopted draft resolution IV, entitled "Change in the frequency of the sessions of the Committee on Water Resources of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia", recommended by the Commission (E/1997/40/Add.1, chap. I, sect. E). See Council resolution 1997/10.

Establishment of the Committee on Transport of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

229. At the 34th meeting, on 18 July, the Council adopted draft resolution V, entitled "Establishment of the Committee on Transport of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia", recommended by the Commission (E/1997/40/Add.1, chap. I, sect. E). See Council resolution 1997/11.

Establishment of the Technical Committee on Liberalization of Foreign Trade and Economic Globalization in the Countries of the ESCWA Region

230. At the 34th meeting, on 18 July, the Council adopted draft resolution VI, entitled "Establishment of the Technical Committee on Liberalization of Foreign Trade and Economic Globalization in the Countries of the ESCWA Region", recommended by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (E/1997/40/Add.1, chap. I, sect. E). See Council resolution 1997/12.

Progress made in facilitating the relocation of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia to its permanent headquarters at Beirut

231. At the 34th meeting, on 18 July, the Council adopted draft resolution VII, entitled "Progress made in facilitating the relocation of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia to its permanent headquarters at Beirut",

recommended by the Commission (E/1997/40/Add.1, chap. I, sect. E). See Council resolution 1997/13.

Organizational and programme changes and modifications introduced by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia since 1994

232. At the 34th meeting, on 18 July, the Council adopted draft resolution VIII, entitled "Organizational and programme changes and modifications introduced by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia since 1994", recommended by the Commission (E/1997/40/Add.1, chap. I, sect. E). See Council resolution 1997/14.

Celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia in 1999 and role of the Commission in the coming century

233. At the 34th meeting, on 18 July, the Council adopted draft resolution IX, entitled "Celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia in 1999 and role of the Commission in the coming century", recommended by the Commission (E/1997/40/Add.1, chap. I, sect. E). See Council resolution 1997/15.

Documents considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with the question of regional cooperation

234. At the 34th meeting, on 18 July, on the proposal of the President, the Council took note of documents before it in connection with the question of regional cooperation. See Council decision 1997/314.

G. Permanent sovereignty over national resources in the occupied Palestinian and other Arab territories

235. At its substantive session, the Council considered the question of permanent sovereignty over national resources in the occupied Palestinian and other Arab territories (agenda item 11) at its 41st and 42nd meetings, on 24 and 25 July 1997. An account of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (E/1997/SR.41 and 42). The Council had before it a note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report prepared by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia on the economic and social repercussions of the Israeli settlements on the Palestinian people in the Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, occupied since 1967, and on the Arab population of the Syrian Golan (A/52/172-E/1997/71 and Corr.1).

ACTION TAKEN BY THE COUNCIL

236. Under agenda item 11, the Council adopted resolution 1997/67 and decision 1997/309.

Economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan

237. At the 41st meeting, on 24 July, the representative of Jordan, on behalf of Bangladesh, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt,* Jordan, Malaysia, Sudan and Tunisia, introduced a draft resolution (E/1997/L.52) entitled "Economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan", which read as follows:

"The Economic and Social Council,

"Recalling General Assembly resolution 51/190 of 16 December 1996,

"Recalling also its resolution 1996/40 of 26 July 1996,

"Guided by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, affirming the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, and recalling relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 465 (1980) of 1 March 1980 and 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981,

"Reaffirming the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, to the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

"Convinced that foreign occupation impedes efforts to achieve sustainable development and a sound economic environment,

"Gravely concerned about the deterioration of economic and living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and of the Arab population of the occupied Syrian Golan,

"Aware of the important work being done by the United Nations and the specialized agencies in support of the economic and social development of the Palestinian people,

"Conscious of the urgent need for the development of the economic and social infrastructure of the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and for the improvement of the living conditions of the Palestinian people as a prerequisite for promoting peace and stability,

"1. Stresses the need to preserve the territorial integrity of all of the occupied Palestinian territory and to guarantee the freedom of movement of persons and goods in the territory, including the removal of restrictions into and from East Jerusalem, and the freedom of movement to and from the outside world;

"2. Stresses further the vital importance of the operation and construction of the Gaza airport, the seaport in Gaza and safe passage to the economic and social development of the Palestinian people;

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* In accordance with rule 72 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council.

"3. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, cease its measures of collective punishment against the Palestinian people, in particular, the closure of the occupied Palestinian territory, the enforcement of sieges against Palestinian towns, the destruction of homes and the isolation of Jerusalem;

"4. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the Palestinian people and the Arab population of the occupied Syrian Golan to all their natural and economic resources, and calls upon Israel, the occupying Power, not to exploit, endanger, or cause loss or depletion of these resources;

"5. *Reaffirms also* that Israeli settlements in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and the occupied Syrian Golan are illegal and an obstacle to economic and social development;

"6. *Stresses* the importance of the work of the organizations and agencies of the United Nations, and of the United Nations Special Coordinator in the Occupied Territories under the auspices of the Secretary-General;

"7. *Urges* Member States to encourage private foreign investment in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, in infrastructure, job-creation projects and social development, in order to alleviate the hardship of the Palestinian people and improve their living conditions;

"8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution and to continue to include, in the report of the United Nations Special Coordinator in the Occupied Territories, an update on the living conditions of the Palestinian people, in collaboration with relevant organizations and agencies of the United Nations;

"9. *Decides* to include in the agenda of its substantive session of 1998, an item entitled 'Repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the economic and social rights and the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan'."

238. At the 42nd meeting, on 25 July, the representative of Jordan, on behalf of the sponsors, read out revisions to the draft resolution.

239. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised, by a roll-call vote of 43 to 1, with 2 abstentions. See Council resolution 1997/67. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Argentina, Bangladesh, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Cuba, Czech Republic, Djibouti, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, India, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mexico, Mozambique, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Philippines, Poland, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Against: United States of America.

Abstaining: Australia, Romania.

240. Before the draft resolution was adopted, statements were made by the representative of the United States of America and the Observer for Israel; after it was adopted, statements were made by the representatives of Canada and the Russian Federation and the observer for Palestine.

Note by the Secretary-General on the economic and social repercussions of the Israeli settlements on the Palestinian people in the Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, occupied since 1967, and on the Arab population of the Syrian Golan

241. At its 42nd meeting, on 25 July, the Council took note of the note by the Secretary-General on the economic and social repercussions of the Israeli settlements on the Palestinian people in the Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, occupied since 1967, and on the Arab population of the Syrian Golan (A/52/172-E/1997/71 and Corr.1). See Council decision 1997/309.

K. Implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/227

242. At its substantive session, the Council considered the question of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/227 (agenda item 12) at its 42nd meeting, on 25 July 1997. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields (A/52/155-E/1997/68 and Add.1);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly in the economic, social and related fields (E/1996/97 and Add.1);

(c) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report prepared by the International Monetary Fund on collaboration between the United Nations and the International Monetary Fund (E/1997/78).

ACTION TAKEN BY THE COUNCIL

243. Under agenda item 12, the Council adopted decisions 1997/310 and 1997/311.

Review of subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council

244. At the 42nd meeting, on 25 July, the Vice-President of the Council, Mr. Anwarul Karim Chowdhury (Bangladesh), introduced a draft decision (E/1997/L.58) entitled "Review of subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council", submitted on the basis of informal consultations.

245. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the draft decision. See Council decision 1997/310.

Implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/227

246. At the 42nd meeting, on 25 July, the Vice-President of the Council, Mr. Anwarul Karim Chowdhury (Bangladesh), orally proposed a draft decision entitled "Implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/227", which had been agreed upon during informal consultations.

247. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the draft decision. See Council decision 1997/311.

I. Non-governmental organizations

248. At its substantive session, the Council considered the question of non-governmental organizations (agenda item 13) at its 40th to 43rd meetings, from 23 to 25 July 1997. An account of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (E/1997/SR.40-43). It had before it the report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (E/1997/90 and Corr.1).

ACTION TAKEN BY THE COUNCIL

249. Under agenda item 13, the Council adopted resolutions 1997/57 and 1997/58 and decisions 1997/295 to 1997/298, 1997/312 and 1997/315.

Recommendations contained in the report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (E/1997/90 and Corr.1)

Enlargement of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations

250. At the 40th meeting, on 23 July, the Council adopted draft resolution I, entitled "Enlargement of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations", recommended by the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (E/1997/90, chap. I, sect. A). See Council resolution 1997/57.

Strengthening of the Non-Governmental Organizations Section of the United Nations Secretariat

251. At the 40th meeting, on 23 July, the Council considered draft resolution II, entitled "Strengthening of the Non-Governmental Organizations Section of the United Nations Secretariat", recommended by the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (E/1997/90, chap. I, sect. A). The Council was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

252. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the draft resolution. See Council resolution 1997/58.

Applications for consultative status received from non-governmental organizations

253. At the 40th meeting, on 23 July, the Council adopted draft decision I, entitled "Applications for consultative status", recommended by the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (E/1997/90 and Corr.1, chap. I, sect. B). See Council decision 1997/295.

254. After the draft decision was adopted, statements were made by the representatives of the United States of America and Cuba.

Resumed 1997 session of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations

255. At the 40th meeting, on 23 July, the Council considered draft decision II, entitled "Resumed 1997 session of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations", recommended by the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (E/1997/90, chap. I, sect. B).

256. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Council read out a statement regarding the programme budget implications of the draft decision.

257. The Council then adopted the draft decision. See Council decision 1997/296.

Meetings of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations

258. At the 40th meeting, on 23 July, the Council considered draft decision III, entitled "Meetings of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations", recommended by the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (E/1997/90, chap. I, sect. B). The Council was informed that the draft resolution contained no programme budget implications.

259. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the draft decision. See Council decision 1997/297.

Other recommendations

Participation of non-governmental organizations accredited to the Fourth World Conference on Women in the work of the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-second session, non-governmental organizations accredited to the World Summit for Social Development in the work of the Commission for Social Development at its thirty-sixth session, and non-governmental organizations accredited to the International Conference on Population and Development in the work of the Commission on Population and Development at its thirty-first session

260. At the 38th meeting, on 22 July, the representative of Germany introduced a draft decision (E/1997/L.45) entitled "Participation of non-governmental organizations accredited to the Fourth World Conference on Women in the work of the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-second session, non-governmental organizations accredited to the World Summit for Social Development in the work of the Commission for Social Development at its thirty-sixth session, and non-governmental organizations accredited to the International Conference on Population and Development in the work of the Commission on Population and Development at its thirty-first session".

261. At the 40th meeting, on 23 July, the Council adopted the draft decision. See Council decision 1997/298.

Participation of non-governmental organizations in the work of the General Assembly

262. At the 41st meeting, on 24 July, the representative of the United States of America introduced a draft resolution (E/1997/L.51) entitled "Participation of non-governmental organizations in the General Assembly", which read as follows:

> "The Economic and Social Council
>
> "*Recommends* to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

'Participation of non-governmental organizations in the General Assembly

'The General Assembly,

'Recalling Article 71 of the Charter of the United Nations, Economic and Social Council resolutions 1296 (XLIV) of 25 May 1968 and 1996/31 of 25 July 1996 and decision 1996/297 of 25 July 1996 and General Assembly resolutions 49/252 and 51/181, and taking into account the recommendations of the Open-ended High-level Working Group on the Strengthening of the United Nations System,

'Noting the ad hoc attendance of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council in meetings of the General Assembly and its Main Committees,

'1. Decides to invite non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council to attend open Plenary meetings of the Assembly and open meetings of its Main Committees and special sessions, and to make available within the United Nations documents and statements prepared by them in connection with these meetings;

'2. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare, for consideration by the General Assembly at its fifty-second session, an interim report on existing arrangements and practices relating to participation by non-governmental organizations in organs and bodies of the United Nations and other parts of the United Nations system; the interim report shall describe existing practices, procedures, modalities and regulations pertaining to arrangements for participation by non-governmental organizations;

'3. Also requests the Secretary-General, in a final report to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session, to propose procedures, defining any further participation by non-governmental organizations in the work of the General Assembly, its Main Committees and special sessions, where appropriate, for their consideration; such proposals and procedures shall recognize the essential intergovernmental character of these bodies, shall not entail new or additional costs to the Organization, and shall be consistent with the limits of the procedures already established under Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31 and relevant decisions of the General Assembly and without prejudice to any participation already permitted to non-governmental organizations by these bodies under existing arrangements and practices.'"

263. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Malaysia and the United States of America and the observer for the United Republic of Tanzania (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China). The President of the Council also made a statement.

264. At the 42nd meeting, on 25 July, the President of the Council read out the text of a proposal submitted by the United Republic of Tanzania* (on behalf of

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* In accordance with rule 72 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council.

the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China) and the United States of America.

265. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Cuba, Jamaica, the Philippines, the Untied States of America, India, Uganda, Canada and Bangladesh and the observer for the United Republic of Tanzania (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

266. At the 43rd meeting, on 25 July, the Council decided to postpone consideration of draft resolution E/1997/L.51 pending the outcome of the deliberations on the issue at the fifty-second session of the General Assembly. See Council decision 1997/312.

Report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations

267. At the 43rd meeting, on 25 July, on the proposal of the President, the Council took note of the report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (E/1997/90 and Corr.1). See Council decision 1997/315.

J. New and innovative ideas for generating funds

268. At its substantive session, the Council considered the question of new and innovative ideas for generating funds (agenda item 14) at its 40th and 43rd meetings, on 23 and 25 July 1997. An account of the discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (E/1997/SR.40 and 43). The Council had before it the report of the Secretary-General on new and innovative ideas for generating funds for globally agreed commitments and priorities (A/52/203-E/1997/85).

ACTION TAKEN BY THE COUNCIL

269. Under agenda item 14, the Council adopted decision 1997/313.

Report of the Secretary-General on new and innovative ideas for generating funds for globally agreed commitments and priorities

270. At its 43rd meeting, on 25 July, the Council took note of the report of the Secretary-General on new and innovative ideas for generating funds for globally agreed commitments and priorities (A/52/203-E/1997/85). See Council decision 1997/313.

Chapter VI

ELECTIONS, APPOINTMENTS, NOMINATIONS AND CONFIRMATIONS

1. The Council considered the question of elections, appointments, nominations and confirmations at its organizational and resumed organizational sessions (agenda item 8). The question was considered at the 2nd to 4th meetings, on 7 February and 1 May 1997. An account of the proceedings is contained in the relevant summary records (E/1997/SR.2-4). The Council had before it the following documents:

(a) Annotated provisional agenda for the organizational session for 1997 (E/1997/2 and Add.1);

(b) Note by the Secretary-General on the confirmation of representatives on the functional commissions of the Council (E/1997/L.1 and Add.1 and 2 and E/1997/L.17);

(c) Note by the Secretary-General on the election of three members of the Committee on Natural Resources (E/1997/L.2 and Add.1 and 2);

(d) Note by the Secretary-General on the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (E/1997/L.3);

(e) Note by the Secretary-General on the election of two members of the Committee on New and Renewable Sources of Energy and on Energy for Development (E/1997/L.6 and Add.1);

(f) Note by the Secretary-General on the election of members of the functional commissions of the Council (E/1997/L.8);

(g) Note by the Secretary-General on the election of 14 members of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund (E/1997/L.9);

(h) Note by the Secretary-General on the election of 14 members of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund (E/1997/L.10);

(i) Note by the Secretary-General on the nomination of 7 members of the Committee for Programme and Coordination (E/1997/L.11);

(j) Note by the Secretary-General on the election of 13 members of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting (E/1997/L.12);

(k) Note by the Secretariat on the election of nine members of the Programme Coordination Board of the Joint and Co-sponsored Programme on Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS) (E/1997/L.13);

(l) Note by the Secretary-General on the election of six members of the Executive Board of the World Food Programme (E/1997/L.14);

(m) Note by the Secretary-General on the appointment of five members of the Board of Trustees of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (E/1997/L.16).

ACTION TAKEN BY THE COUNCIL

2. Under agenda item 8, the Council adopted decisions 1997/212 A and B.

Chapter VII

ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

1. The Council held its organizational session for 1997 at United Nations Headquarters on 23 January and 7 February 1997 (1st and 2nd meetings), a resumed organizational session at United Nations Headquarters on 1 and 2 May 1997 (3rd to 5th meetings) and its substantive session at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 30 June to 25 July 1997 (6th to 43rd meetings). An account of the proceedings is contained in the summary records (E/1997/SR.1-43).

A. Action taken by the Council

2. At its organizational session for 1997, the Council adopted 11 decisions on organizational matters. See Council decisions 1997/201 to 1997/211.

3. At its substantive session of 1997, the Council adopted two decisions on organizational matters. See Council decisions 1997/214 and 1997/215.

B. Proceedings

ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION

4. The 1st meeting, on 23 January, was opened by the President of the Economic and Social Council for 1996, Mr. Jean-Marie Kacou Gervais (Côte d'Ivoire). Upon election, the President of the Council for 1997, Mr. Karel Kovanda (Czech Republic), made a statement.

1. Bureau of the Council

5. Pursuant to paragraph 2 (k) of its resolution 1988/77, the Council met on 23 January for the purpose of electing its Bureau.

6. At the 1st meeting, the Council elected, by acclamation, Mr. Daniel Abibi (Congo), Mr. Anwarul Karim Chowdhury (Bangladesh), Mr. Juan Somavía (Chile) and Mr. Gerhard Walter Henze (Germany) Vice-Presidents of the Council for 1997.

7. At the 5th meeting, on 2 May, the Council elected, by acclamation, Mr. Vladimir Galuska (Czech Republic) President of the Council to replace Mr. Karel Kovanda (Czech Republic), who had resigned.

2. Agenda of the organizational session for 1997

8. The Council considered the agenda of its organizational session at the 1st meeting, on 23 January. It had before it the annotated provisional agenda (E/1997/2 and Add.1).

9. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the agenda of the organizational session (see annex I to the present report).

3. Basic programme of work for 1997 and 1998

10. The Council considered its basic programme of work for 1997 and 1998 at the 2nd meeting, on 7 February. It had before it a note by the Secretary-General containing the basic programme of work for 1997 and 1998 (E/1997/1) and the draft proposals thereon submitted by the President and members of the Bureau (E/1997/L.4/Rev.1).

11. At the same meeting, the President made a statement on the informal consultations held on the basic programme of work for 1997 and 1998. The Council then adopted the draft decisions contained in document E/1997/L.4/Rev.1. See Council decisions 1997/201 to 1997/207.

4. Distribution of the work of the fortieth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs

12. At the 2nd meeting, on 7 February, the Council had before it a letter dated 16 December 1996 from the Chairman of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to the President of the Council (E/1997/10), which contained a draft decision for consideration by the Council.

13. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the draft decision. See Council decision 1997/208.

5. Non-governmental organizations

14. At the 2nd meeting, the Council, on the recommendation of the President, adopted an oral decision on the question of accreditation of non-governmental organizations. See Council decision 1997/209.

6. Provision of documentation to the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations

15. At the 2nd meeting, the Council had before it a note by the Secretariat on the provision of documentation to the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (E/1997/9) and a draft decision (E/1997/L.7) submitted by the President and members of the Bureau.

16. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the draft decision as amended by the representative of the Russian Federation. See Council decision 1997/210.

7. Restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields and their impact on the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

17. At the 2nd meeting, the Council had before it a note by the Secretary-General on reform of the United Nations and its impact on the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (E/1997/5) and a draft decision (E/1997/L.5) submitted by the President and members of the Bureau.

18. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the draft decision. See Council decision 1997/211.

SUBSTANTIVE SESSION

8. Agenda of the substantive session of 1997

19. At the 6th meeting, on 30 June, the Council considered the agenda and organization of work of its substantive session of 1997. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Annotated provisional agenda (E/1997/100);

(b) Proposed programme of work for the substantive session of 1997 (E/1997/L.15);

(c) Note by the Secretariat on the status of documentation for the session (E/1997/L.21).

20. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the agenda of the substantive session of 1997 (see annex I) and approved the organization of work of the session. See Council decision 1997/214, paragraph 1.

9. Participation of intergovernmental organizations in the work of the Economic and Social Council

21. At the 16th meeting, on 7 July, the Council decided, in accordance with rule 79 of its rules of procedure, that the International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, an intergovernmental organization, might participate on a continuing basis, without the right to vote, in the deliberations of the Council on questions within the scope of its activities. See Council decision 1997/215.

10. Requests by non-governmental organizations for hearings

22. At the 16th meeting, on 7 July, and at the 22nd meeting, on 10 July, on the recommendation of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (E/1997/80 and Add.1 and 2), the Council approved requests made by non-governmental organizations to be heard by the Council at its substantive session of 1997. See Council decision 1997/214, paragraph 2.

Annex I

AGENDAS OF THE ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION FOR 1997 AND THE SUBSTANTIVE SESSION OF 1997

Agenda of the organizational session for 1997

Adopted by the Council at its 1st meeting, on 23 January 1997

1. Election of the Bureau.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

3. Basic programme of work of the Council.

4. Implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/227: Further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields.

5. Review of the subsidiary bodies of the Council.

6. Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations.

7. Regional cooperation in the economic, social and related fields.

8. Elections, nominations and confirmations.

Agenda of the substantive session of 1997

Adopted by the Council at its 6th meeting, on 30 June 1997

1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

High-level segment

2. Fostering an enabling environment for development: financial flows, including capital flows; investment; trade.

Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation segment

3. Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation:

    (a) Coordination of activities on a system-wide basis: funding for operational activities for development: implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/227;

    (b) Follow-up to policy recommendations of the General Assembly;

    (c) Reports of the Executive Boards of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Food Programme;

    (d) Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries.

Coordination segment

4. Coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system related to the following themes:

   (a) Mainstreaming the gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system;

   (b) Freshwater, including clean and safe water supply and sanitation.

General segment

5. Integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up of the major international United Nations conferences and summits.

6. Coordination, programme and other questions:

   (a) Reports of coordination bodies;

   (b) Multisectoral collaboration on tobacco or health;

   (c) International cooperation in the field of informatics;

   (d) Coordination of the activities of the organizations of the United Nations system in the field of energy;

   (e) Joint and Co-sponsored United Nations Programme on Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome;

   (f) Proposed programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999;

   (g) Calendar of conferences in the economic, social and related fields;

   (h) United Nations University;

   (i) Proclamation of international years.

7. Reports, conclusions and recommendations of subsidiary bodies:

   (a) Economic questions;

   (b) Environmental questions;

   (c) Social questions;

   (d) Human rights questions.

8. Special economic, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance.

9. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations.

10. Regional cooperation.

11. Permanent sovereignty over national resources in the occupied Palestinian and other Arab territories.

12. Implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/227.

13. Non-governmental organizations:

    (a) Report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations;

    (b) Increase in the membership of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations.

14. New and innovative ideas for generating funds.

Annex II

COMPOSITION OF THE COUNCIL AND ITS SUBSIDIARY AND RELATED BODIES

A. Economic and Social Council

(54 members; three-year term)

Membership in 1997	Membership in 1998[a]	Term expires on 31 December
Argentina	Argentina	1998
Australia	Bangladesh	1998
Bangladesh	Canada	1998
Belarus	Cape Verde	1999
Brazil	Central African Republic	1998
Canada	Chile	1999
Cape Verde	China	1998
Central African Republic	Cuba	1999
Chile	Czech Republic	1998
China	Djibouti	1999
Colombia	El Salvador	1999
Congo	Finland	1998
Côte d'Ivoire	France	1999
Cuba	Gabon	1998
Czech Republic	Gambia	1999
Djibouti	Germany	1999
El Salvador	Guyana	1998
Finland	Iceland	1999
France	Japan	1999
Gabon	Jordan	1998
Gambia	Latvia	1999
Germany	Lebanon	1998
Guyana	Mexico	1999
Iceland	Mozambique	1999
India	Nicaragua	1998
Jamaica	Republic of Korea	1999
Japan	Romania	1998
Jordan	Russian Federation	1998
Latvia	Spain	1999
Lebanon	Sri Lanka	1999
Luxembourg	Sweden	1998
Malaysia	Togo	1998
Mexico	Tunisia	1998
Mozambique	Turkey	1999
Netherlands	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	1998
Nicaragua		
Philippines	Zambia	1999

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[a] The remaining 18 seats are to be filled by the General Assembly at its fifty-second session.

Membership in 1997

- Poland
- Republic of Korea
- Romania
- Russian Federation
- South Africa
- Spain
- Sri Lanka
- Sudan
- Sweden
- Thailand
- Togo
- Tunisia
- Turkey
- Uganda
- United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
- United States of America
- Zambia

B. Functional commissions and subcommissions

STATISTICAL COMMISSION

(24 members; four-year term)

Membership in 1997	Membership in 1998 and 1999	Term expires on 31 December
Argentina	Argentina	2001
Botswana	Australia	2001
Bulgaria	Botswana	2001
China	Bulgaria	1999
Colombia	China	1999
Czech Republic	Colombia	1999
France	Côte d'Ivoire	2001
Germany	Czech Republic	2000
India	Germany	2001
Jamaica	Iceland	2001
Japan	India	2000
Kenya	Jamaica	2000
Mexico	Japan	2000
Netherlands	Mexico	2000
Pakistan	Netherlands	2000
Portugal	Pakistan	1999
Romania	Portugal	2000
Russian Federation	Romania	1999
Spain	Russian Federation	2001
Sudan	Sudan	1999
Togo	Togo	1999
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Tunisia	2001
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	2000
United States of America	United States of America	1999
Zambia		

COMMISSION ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

(47 members; four-year term)

Membership in 1997	Membership in 1998[b]	Term expires on 31 December
Algeria	Algeria	1998
Bangladesh	Bangladesh	2000
Belgium	Belgium	2000
Brazil	Brazil	1999
Bulgaria	Bulgaria	1999
Cameroon	Cameroon	2000
Canada	Canada	2000
China	China	2001
Congo	Congo	1998
Côte d'Ivoire	Côte d'Ivoire	2000
Egypt	Egypt	1999
El Salvador	El Salvador	1998
Ethiopia	Ethiopia	2000
France	France	1999
Germany	Germany	2000
Hungary	Hungary	2000
India	India	2001
Indonesia	Indonesia	1999
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	1998
	Jamaica	2001
Italy	Japan	1999
Jamaica	Kenya	1999
Japan	Malawi	2001
Kenya	Malaysia	2000
Lesotho	Malta	1998
Malaysia	Mexico	2001
Malta	Netherlands	1999
Mexico	Niger	2001
Netherlands	Nigeria	2001
Nigeria	Panama	2000
Panama	Peru	1998
Peru	Philippines	2001
Philippines	Republic of Korea	2001
Republic of Korea	Russian Federation	2001
Russian Federation	South Africa	2001
Sudan	Sudan	1999
Syrian Arab Republic	Sweden	2001
	Syrian Arab Republic	1998

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[b] The Council postponed to a future session the election of one member from Latin American and Caribbean States for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1998 and two members for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2000 (decision 1997/212 B).

Membership in 1997	Membership in 1998[b]	Term expires on 31 December
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Thailand	2000
Tunisia	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	1998
Turkey	Turkey	2000
Ukraine	Ukraine	2001
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	2001
United States of America	United States of America	2001
Venzuela		
Zambia		

COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

(46 members; four-year term)

Membership in 1997

- Argentina
- Austria
- Belarus
- Benin
- Cameroon
- Canada
- Chile
- China
- Dominican Republic
- Egypt
- Ethiopia
- Finland
- France
- Gabon
- Gambia
- Germany
- India
- Iran (Islamic Repulic of
- Jamaica
- Japan
- Malawi
- Malta
- Mauritania
- Mongolia
- Netherlands
- Norway
- Pakistan
- Peru
- Poland
- Republic of Korea
- Russian Federation
- South Africa
- Spain
- Sudan
- Togo
- Uganda
- Ukraine
- United States of America
- Venezuela

Membership in 1998	Term expires on 31 December
Argentina	1998
Austria	1998
Belarus	1999
Benin	1998
Cameroon	2000
Canada	2000
Chile	2000
China	2000
Cuba	2000
Dominican Republic	1998
Ecuador	1999
Egypt	1998
Ethiopia	1998
Finland	2000
France	1999
Gabon	1999
Gambia	1999
Germany	1999
Guatemala	1998
India	2000
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	1998
Jamaica	2000
Japan	1999
Malawi	2000
Malaysia	1998
Malta	2000
Mauritania	1999
Mongolia	1998
Nepal	1999
Netherlands	2000
Norway	1998
Pakistan	2000
Peru	1999
Philippines	2000
Poland	2000
Republic of Korea	1999
Romania	2000
Russian Federation	1999
South Africa	2000
Spain	1998
Sudan	1999
Togo	1998
Uganda	2000
Ukraine	1998
United States of America	1999
Venezuela	1999

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

(53 members; three-year term)

Membership in 1997

Algeria
Angola
Argentina
Austria
Bangladesh
Belarus
Benin
Bhutan
Brazil
Bulgaria
Cape Verde
Canada
Chile
China
Colombia
Cuba
Czech Republic
Democratic Republic of the Congo[c]
Denmark
Dominican Republic
Ecuador
Egypt
El Salvador
Ethiopia
France
Gabon
Germany
Guinea
India
Indonesia
Ireland
Italy
Japan
Madagascar
Malaysia
Mali
Mexico
Mozambique
Nepal
Netherlands
Nicaragua
Pakistan
Philippines
Republic of Korea
Russian Federation

Membership in 1998	Term expires on 31 December
Argentina	1999
Austria	1999
Bangladesh	2000
Belarus	1998
Bhutan	2000
Botswana	2000
Brazil	1998
Cape Verde	1999
Canada	2000
Chile	2000
China	1999
Congo	2000
Cuba	2000
Czech Republic	1999
Democratic Republic of the Congo[c]	1999
Denmark	1998
Ecuador	1999
El Salvador	2000
France	1998
Germany	1999
Guatemala	2000
Guinea	1998
India	2000
Indonesia	1999
Ireland	1999
Italy	1999
Japan	1999
Luxembourg	2000
Madagascar	1998
Malaysia	1998
Mali	1998
Mexico	1998
Morocco	2000
Mozambique	1999
Nepal	2000
Pakistan	1998
Peru	2000
Philippines	2000
Poland	2000
Republic of Korea	1998
Russian Federation	2000
Rwanda	2000
Senegal	2000
South Africa	1999
Sri Lanka	2000
Sudan	2000

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[c] Formerly Zaire.

Membership in 1997

South Africa
Sri Lanka
Uganda
Ukraine
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
United States of America
Uruguay
Zimbabwe

Membership in 1998	Term expires on 31 December
Tunisia	2000
Uganda	1998
Ukraine	1998
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	2000
United States of America	1998
Uruguay	1999
Venezuela	2000

SUBCOMMISSION ON PREVENTION OF DISCRIMINATION AND PROTECTION OF MINORITIES

(26 members)

Members elected on 7 March 1994, for a four-year term, by the Commission on Human Rights at its fiftieth session

José Augusto Lindgren Alves (Brazil)

Alternate: Marília Sardenberg Zelner Gonçalves (Brazil)

Judith Sefi Attah (Nigeria)

Alternate: Christy Ezim Mbonu (Nigeria)

José Bengoa (Chile)

Alternate: Mario Ibarra (Chile)

Stanislav Chernichenko (Russian Federation)

Alternate: Teimuraz Ramishvili (Russian Federation)

Erica-Irene Daes (Greece)

Alternate: Kalliopi Koufa (Greece)

Osman El-Hajje (Lebanon)

Fan Guoxiang (China)

Alternate: Zhong Shukong (China)

El-Hadji Guissé (Senegal)

Alternate: Ndary Touré (Senegal)

Lucy Gwanmesia (Cameroon)

Alternate: Pierre Sob (Cameroon)

Louis Joinet (France)

Alternate: Emmanuel Decaux (France)

Mohammed Sardar Ali Khan (India)

Miguel Limón Rojas (Mexico)

Alternate: Héctor Fix Zamudio (Mexico)

Claire Palley (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)

Alternate: John Merrills (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Members elected on 22 April 1996, for a four-year term, by the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-second session

Marc Bossuyt (Belgium)

Alternate: Guy Genot (Belgium)

Volodymyr Boutkevitch (Ukraine)

Alternate: Olexandre Kouptchichine (Ukraine)

Asbjorn Eide (Norway)

Alternate: Jan Helgesen (Norway)

Ribot Hatano (Japan)

Alternate: Yozo Yokota (Japan)

Ahmed M. Khalifa (Egypt)

Alternate: Ahmed Khalil (Egypt)

Miguel J. Alfonso Martínez (Cuba)

Alternate: Marianela Ferriol Echevarría (Cuba)

Ioan Maxim (Romania)

Alternate: Petru Pavel Gavrilescu (Romania)

Mustapha Mehedi (Algeria)

Sang Yong Park (Republic of Korea)

Clemencia Forero Ucros (Colombia)

Alternate: Jorge Orlando Melo (Colombia)

Halima Embarek Warzazi (Morocco)

Alternate: Mohamad Benkaddour (Morocco)

David Weissbrodt (United States of America)

Alternate: Robert J. Portman (United States of America)

Fisseha Yimer (Ethiopia)

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

(45 members; four-year term)

__Membership in 1997__

Angola
Bahamas
Belgium
Brazil
Bulgaria
Chile
China
Congo
Costa Rica
Cyprus
Dominican Republic
Ecuador
Ethiopia
France
Germany
Ghana
Greece
Guinea
India
Indonesia
Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Japan
Kenya
Lebanon
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
Malaysia
Mali
Mexico
Morocco
Namibia
Norway
Paraguay
Peru
Philippines
Poland
Portugal
Republic of Korea
Russian Federation
Slovakia
Swaziland
Thailand
Togo
Tunisia
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
United States of America

Membership in 1998	Term expires on 31 December
Angola	1998
Belgium	1998
Bolivia	2001
Brazil	1999
Bulgaria	1998
Chile	1999
China	1999
Congo	1998
Côte d'Ivoire	2001
Cuba	2001
Dominican Republic	1999
Ethiopia	2000
France	2000
Germany	2000
Ghana	2000
Greece	1998
India	2001
Indonesia	1998
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	2001
Japan	2000
Lebanon	1999
Lesotho	2001
Malaysia	2001
Mali	1999
Mexico	1998
Morocco	2000
Norway	1999
Paraguay	2000
Peru	2000
Philippines	1998
Poland	2000
Portugal	1998
Republic of Korea	2001
Russian Federation	1998
Rwanda	2001
Saint Lucia	2001
Slovakia	1999
Sri Lanka	2001
Sudan	2001
Swaziland	1999
Thailand	2000
Togo	1998
Uganda	2001
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	2000
United States of America	1999

COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS

(53 members; four-year term)

Membership in 1997

- Algeria
- Australia
- Bahamas
- Belgium
- Bolivia
- Brazil
- Bulgaria
- Canada
- China
- Colombia
- Côte d'Ivoire
- Cuba
- Czech Republic
- Ecuador
- Egypt
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Ghana
- Greece
- Guinea
- India
- Indonesia
- Iran (Islamic Republic of
- Italy
- Jamaica
- Japan
- Lebanon
- Liberia
- Malaysia
- Mexico
- Morocco
- Netherlands
- Nigeria
- Pakistan
- Paraguay
- Poland
- Portugal
- Republic of Korea
- Romania
- Russian Federation
- South Africa
- Spain
- Sri Lanka
- Sudan
- Sweden
- Syrian Arab Republic

Membership in 1998 and 1999	Term expires on 31 December
Algeria	1999
Australia	2001
Bolivia	1999
Brazil	1999
Bulgaria	1999
Canada	1999
Chile	2001
China	2001
Colombia	2001
Côte d'Ivoire	2001
Cuba	1999
Czech Republic	1999
Ecuador	1999
Egypt	1999
France	1999
Germany	1999
Ghana	2001
Greece	1999
India	1999
Indonesia	1999
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	1999
Italy	1999
Jamaica	1999
Japan	2001
Lao People's Democratic Republic	2001
Lebanon	2001
Malaysia	1999
Mauritius	2001
Mexico	2001
Morocco	1999
Netherlands	1999
Nigeria	1999
Pakistan	1999
Poland	1999
Portugal	1999
Republic of Korea	1999
Romania	2001
Russian Federation	2001
Sierra Leone	2001
South Africa	1999
Spain	2001
Sudan	1999
Sweden	1999
Switzerland	2001
Syrian Arab Republic	1999
Thailand	1999
Tunisia	1999
Turkey	2001
Ukraine	2001

Membership in 1997

Thailand
Tunisia
Ukraine
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
United States of America
Venezuela

Membership in 1998 and 1999	Term expires on 31 December
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	2001
United States of America	1999
Uruguay	2001
Venezuela	1999

SUBCOMMISION ON ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFIC AND RELATED MATTERS IN THE NEAR AND MIDDLE EAST[d]

Members

Afghanistan
Azerbaijan
Bahrain
Egypt
India
Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Iraq
Jordan
Kazakhstan
Kuwait
Kyrgyzstan
Lebanon
Oman
Pakistan
Qatar
Saudi Arabia
Syrian Arab Republic
Tajikistan
Turkey
Turkmenistan
United Arab Emirates
Uzbekistan
Yemen

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[d] Sweden has resigned from the Subcommission. See the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its fortieth session (*Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1997, Supplement No. 8* (E/1997/28)), chap. I, sect. C.

COMMISSION ON CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

(40 members; three-year term)

Membership in 1997

Austria
Angola
Argentina
Belarus
Bolivia
Burundi
Canada
China
Colombia
Costa Rica
Egypt
Fiji
France
Gambia
Indonesia
Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Italy
Jamaica
Japan
Lesotho
Madagascar
Malawi
Mexico
Netherlands
Nicaragua
Nigeria
Pakistan
Paraguay
Philippines
Poland
Republic of Korea
Russian Federation
Sudan
Swaziland
Sweden
Thailand
Tunisia
Ukraine
United States of America
Zambia

Membership in 1998 and 1999	Term expires on 31 December
Austria	1999
Argentina	2000
Benin	2000
Bolivia	1999
Botswana	2000
Brazil	2000
China	2000
Colombia	1999
Costa Rica	2000
Côte d'Ivoire	2000
Ecuador	2000
Egypt	1999
Fiji	1999
France	2000
Gambia	1999
Germany	2000
India	2000
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	2000
Italy	2000
Jamaica	1999
Japan	1999
Lesotho	1999
Malawi	1999
Mexico	2000
Netherlands	1999
Pakistan	1999
Philippines	1999
Poland	2000
Republic of Korea	2000
Romania	2000
Russian Federation	1999
Saudi Arabia	2000
Sudan	1999
Swaziland	1999
Sweden	1999
Togo	2000
Tunisia	1999
Ukraine	1999
United States of America	2000
Zambia	1999

COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT

(53 members)

Membership in 1997

Antigua and Barbuda
Austria
Azerbaijan
Belarus
Belgium
Bolivia
Brazil
Bulgaria
Burundi
Canada
Cape Verde
Chile
China
Colombia
Congo
Costa Rica
Denmark
Egypt
Ethiopia
Germany
Guatemala
India
Ireland
Jamaica
Japan
Jordan
Kuwait
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
Malawi
Malaysia
Malta
Marshall Islands
Mexico
Morocco

Membership in 1998[e]	Term expires on 31 December
Angola	2001
Austria[f]	
Benin	1999
Cameroon	2001
China[f]	
Côte d'Ivoire	1999
Democratic Republic of the Congo[g]	
Ethiopia	1999
Germany[f]	
Ghana	2001
Guinea	2001
Jamaica[f]	
Malawi	1999
Malta[f]	
Namibia	1999
Netherlands[f]	
Pakistan[f]	
Qatar[f]	
Russian Federation[f]	
Tunisia	2001
Uganda	2001
Ukraine[f]	
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland[f]	
United Republic of Tanzania	2001

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[e] The Council postponed to a future session the election of eight members from Asian States, four members from Eastern European States, nine members from Latin American and Caribbean States and eight members from Western European and other States for a term beginning on 1 January 1998 (decision 1997/212 B).

[f] In accordance with Council decision 1995/312, the term of office will be determined by lot once the membership of the regional group concerned is complete.

[g] Formerly Zaire.

Membership in 1997

Netherlands
Niger
Nigeria
Pakistan
Philippines
Romania
Russian Federation
Saudi Arabia
Spain
Togo
Uganda
Ukraine
United Kingdom of
  Great Britain and
  Northern Ireland
United Republic of
  Tanzania
United States of
  America
Uruguay
Viet Nam

COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

(53 members; three-year term)

Membership in 1997

Antigua and Barbuda
Australia
Bahamas
Bangladesh
Belgium
Benin
Bolivia
Brazil
Bulgaria
Burundi
Canada
Central African Republic
China
Colombia
Djibouti
Egypt
Ethiopia
Finland
France
Gabon
Germany
Ghana
Guyana
Hungary
India
Indonesia
Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Ireland
Japan
Mexico
Mozambique
Netherlands
Niger
Pakistan
Panama
Papua New Guinea
Peru
Philippines
Poland
Russian Federation
Saudi Arabia
Senegal
Slovakia
Spain
Sudan
Sweden
Switzerland

Membership in 1998	Term expires on 31 December
Algeria	2000
Antigua and Barbuda	1998
Belgium	1998
Benin	1998
Bolivia	1998
Brazil	2000
Bulgaria	1999
Canada	1999
Central African Republic	1998
China	1998
Colombia	1998
Côte d'Ivoire	2000
Czech Republic	2000
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	2000
Djibouti	1999
Egypt	1999
France	2000
Gabon	1998
Germany	1998
Guyana	1998
Hungary	2000
India	1999
Indonesia	1999
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	2000
Ireland	1999
Japan	1999
Mauritania	2000
Mauritius	2000
Mexico	1999
Mozambique	1998
Netherlands	1998
New Zealand	2000
Nicaragua	2000
Niger	1999
Pakistan	1998
Panama	1999
Peru	2000
Philippines	2000
Poland	1998
Portugal	2000
Russian Federation	1998
Saudi Arabia	1998
Slovakia	1999
Spain	2000
Sri Lanka	2000
Sudan	1999
Sweden	1998
Switzerland	1998
Thailand	1998

Membership in 1997

Thailand
Ukraine
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
United States of America
Venezuela
Zimbabwe

Membership in 1998	Term expires on 31 December
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	1999
United States of America	1999
Venezuela	1999
Zimbabwe	1998

C. Regional Commissions

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Members

Algeria
Angola
Benin
Botswana
Burkina Faso
Burundi
Cameroon
Cape Verde
Central African Republic
Chad
Comoros
Congo
Côte d'Ivoire
Democratic Republic of the Congo[h]
Djibouti
Egypt
Equatorial Guinea
Eritrea
Ethiopia
Gabon
Gambia
Ghana
Guinea
Guinea-Bissau
Kenya
Lesotho
Liberia
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
Madagascar
Malawi
Mali
Mauritania
Mauritius
Morocco
Mozambique
Namibia
Niger
Nigeria
Rwanda
Sao Tome and Principe
Senegal
Seychelles
Sierra Leone
Somalia
South Africa
Sudan
Swaziland
Togo
Tunisia
Uganda
United Republic of Tanzania
Zambia
Zimbabwe

Switzerland participates in a consultative capacity in the work of the Commission by virtue of Council resolution 925 (XXXIV) of 6 July 1962.

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[h] Formerly Zaire.

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Members

Albania
Andorra
Armenia
Austria
Azerbaijan
Belarus
Belgium
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Bulgaria
Canada
Croatia
Cyprus
Czech Republic
Denmark
Estonia
Finland
France
Georgia
Germany
Greece
Hungary
Iceland
Ireland
Israel
Italy
Kazakhstan
Kyrgyzstan
Latvia
Liechtenstein
Lithuania
Luxembourg
Malta
Monaco
Netherlands
Norway
Poland
Portugal
Republic of Moldova
Romania
Russian Federation
San Marino
Slovakia
Slovenia
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
Tajikistan
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Turkey
Turkmenistan
Ukraine
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
United States of America
Uzbekistan
Yugoslavia[1]

The Holy See participates in the work of the Commission in accordance with Commission decision N (XXXI) of 5 April 1976.

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[1] By decision 1993/316, the Economic and Social Council decided that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) should not participate in the work of the Economic Commission for Europe as long as the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) did not participate in the work of the General Assembly.

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Members

Antigua and Barbuda
Argentina
Bahamas
Barbados
Belize
Bolivia
Brazil
Canada
Chile
Colombia
Costa Rica
Cuba
Dominica
Dominican Republic
Ecuador
El Salvador
France
Grenada
Guatemala
Guyana
Haiti
Honduras
Italy
Jamaica
Mexico
Netherlands
Nicaragua
Panama
Paraguay
Peru
Portugal
Saint Kitts and Nevis
Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Spain
Suriname
Trinidad and Tobago
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
United States of America
Uruguay
Venezuela

Associate members

Aruba
British Virgin Islands
Montserrat
Netherlands Antilles
Puerto Rico
United States Virgin Islands

Germany and Switzerland participate in a consultative capacity in the work of the Commission by virtue of Council resolutions 632 (XXII) of 19 December 1956 and 861 (XXXII) of 21 December 1961, respectively.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Members

Afghanistan
Armenia
Australia
Azerbaijan
Bangladesh
Bhutan
Brunei Darussalam
Cambodia
China
Democratic People's Republic
  of Korea
Fiji
France
India
Indonesia
Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Japan
Kazakhstan
Kiribati
Kyrgyzstan
Lao People's Democratic Republic
Malaysia
Maldives
Marshall Islands
Micronesia (Federated States of)
Mongolia
Myanmar
Nauru
Nepal
Netherlands
New Zealand
Pakistan
Palau
Papua New Guinea
Philippines
Republic of Korea
Russian Federation
Samoa
Singapore
Solomon Islands
Sri Lanka
Tajikistan
Thailand
Tonga
Turkey
Turkmenistan
Tuvalu
United Kingdom of Great Britain
  and Northern Ireland
United States of America
Uzbekistan
Vanuatu
Viet Nam

Associate members

American Samoa
Commonwealth of the Northern
  Mariana Islands
Cook Islands
French Polynesia
Guam
Hong Kong, China
Macau
New Caledonia
Niue

Switzerland participates in a consultative capacity in the work of the Commission by virtue of Council resolution 860 (XXXII) of 21 December 1961.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR WESTERN ASIA

Members

Bahrain
Egypt
Iraq
Jordan
Kuwait
Lebanon
Oman
Palestine
Qatar
Saudi Arabia
Syrian Arab Republic
United Arab Emirates
Yemen

D. Standing Committees

COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAMME AND COORDINATION

(34 members; three-year term)

Membership in 1997

- Argentina
- Austria
- Bahamas
- Benin
- Brazil
- Cameroon
- China
- Congo
- Democratic Republic of the Congo[k]
- Egypt
- France
- Germany
- Ghana
- Indonesia
- Iran (Islamic Republic of)
- Japan
- Mexico
- Nicaragua
- Nigeria
- Pakistan
- Poland
- Republic of Korea
- Romania
- Russian Federation
- Thailand
- Togo
- Trinidad and Tobago
- Ukraine
- United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
- United States of America
- Uruguay
- Zimbabwe

Membership in 1998[j]	Term expires on 31 December
Argentina	1999
Austria	1999
Brazil	1999
Cameroon	1999
China	1998
Congo	1999
Democratic Republic of the Congo[k]	1998
Egypt	1998
Germany	1999
Indonesia	1999
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	1999
Japan	1998
Nicaragua	1999
Nigeria	1999
Pakistan	1999
Poland	1999
Republic of Korea	1998
Romania	1999
Thailand	1999
Togo	1998
Trinidad and Tobago	1999
Ukraine	1999
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	1999
Uruguay	1998
Zimbabwe	1999

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[j] The remaining members are to be elected by the General Assembly at its fifty-second session. The Council nominated seven Member States for election and postponed to a future session the nomination of two members from Western European and other States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1999 (decision 1997/212 B).

[k] Formerly Zaire.

COMMISSION ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

(58 members; four-year term)

Membership in 1997 and 1998	Term expires on 31 December
Algeria	1999
Bangladesh	2000
Barbados	1999
Belarus	2000
Belgium	2000
Benin	1999
Brazil	1998
Bulgaria	1999
Cameroon	1998
Chile	1998
China	2000
Colombia	1999
Costa Rica	1998
Czech Republic	1999
Denmark	1999
Dominican Republic	1998
Ecuador	2000
Ethiopia	2000
Finland	1998
France	2000
Gabon	1998
Gambia	1998
Germany	1999
India	1999
Indonesia	2000
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	1998
Italy	2000
Jamaica	2000
Japan	1998
Jordan	1999
Kazakhstan	1998
Kenya	1999
Liberia	2000
Malawi	2000
Mexico	1999
Namibia	2000
Netherlands	2000
Nigeria	1998
Norway	1999

Membership in 1997 and 1998	Term expires on 31 December
Pakistan	1998
Philippines	1999
Poland	2000
Republic of Korea	2000
Romania	1998
Russian Federation	1998
Spain	1999
Sri Lanka	1999
Sudan	1999
Sweden	2000
Tunisia	1999
Turkey	1998
Uganda	1998
United Arab Emirates	1999
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	1998
United States of America	1998
Venezuela	2000
Zambia	2000
Zimbabwe	1998

COMMITTEE ON NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

(19 members)

Members elected for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1995

Bulgaria
Chile
China
Costa Rica
Cuba
Ethiopia
Greece
India
Indonesia
Ireland
Madagascar
Paraguay
Philippines
Russian Federation
Sudan
Swaziland[1]
Tunisia
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
United States of America

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[1] Elected at the 11th meeting, on 6 June 1995, for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1998 (decision 1995/221).

E. Expert bodies

INTERGOVERNMENTAL WORKING GROUP OF EXPERTS ON INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS OF ACCOUNTING AND REPORTING

(34 members; three-year term)

Membership in 1997	Membership in 1998[a]	Term expires on 31 December
Chile	Benin	2000
China	Bulgaria	2000
Cyprus	Cameroon	2000
France	China	1999
Gabon	Comoros	2000
Gambia	France	1999
Hungary	Gabon	1999
India	Gambia	1999
Italy	Italy	1999
Jordan	Kenya	1999
Kenya	Malawi	1999
Malawi	Namibia	1999
Namibia	Netherlands	1999
Netherlands	Panama	1999
Nigeria	Russian Federation	1999
Pakistan	Sierra Leone	2000
Panama	Sweden	1999
Romania	Switzerland	1999
Russian Federation	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	1999
Sudan		
Swaziland		
Sweden		
Switzerland		
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland		

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[a] The Council postponed to a future session the election of four members from Asian States, one member from Eastern European States and three members from Latin American and Caribbean States for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1998 (decision 1997/212 B). The Council also postponed to a future session the election of two members from Asian States, two members from Latin American and Caribbean States and three members from Western European and other States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1999 and one member from African States and two members from Latin American and Caribbean States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1997 (decision 1997/212 B).

COMMITTEE FOR DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

Members appointed by the Economic and Social Council, on the nomination of the Secretary-General, for a term beginning on the date of appointment[a] and expiring on 31 December 1997

Maria Agusztinovics (Hungary)
Bionisio Dias Carnerio-Netto (Brazil)
Makhtar Diouf (Senegal)
E. El-Hinnawi (Egypt)
Just Faaland (Norway)
Gao Shangquan (China)
Patrick Guillaumont (France)
Ryokichi Hirono (Japan)
Nurul Islam (Bangladesh)
Taher Kanaan (Jordan)
Louka T. Katseli (Greece)
Linda Lim (Singapore)
Nguyuru H. I. Lipumba (United Republic of Tanzania)
Nora Lustig (Argentina/Mexico)
Solita C. Monsod (Philippines)
Bishnodat Persaud (Guyana)
Akilagpa Sawyerr (Ghana)
Klaus Schwab (Germany)
Arjun Sengupta (India)
Alexandre Shokhin (Russian Federation)
Frances Stewart (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)
Lance Taylor (United States of America)
Alvaro Umaña (Costa Rica)
Miguel Urrutia (Colombia)

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[a] 27 July 1995 (see Council decision 1995/230).

COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS

(18 members; four-year term)

Membership in 1997 and 1998	Term expires on 31 December
Ade Adekuoye (Nigeria)	1998
Mahmoud Samir Ahmed (Egypt)	1998
Philip Alston (Australia)	1998
Ivan Antanovich (Belarus)	2000
Virginia Bonoan-Dandan (Philippines)	1998
Dumitru Ceausu (Romania)	2000
Oscar Ceville (Panama)	2000
Abdessatar Grissa (Tunisia)	2000
María de los Angeles Jiménez Butragueño (Spain)	2000
Valeri I. Kouznetsov (Russian Federation)	1998
Jaime Alberto Marchan Romero (Ecuador)	1998
Ariranga Govindasamy Pillay (Mauritius)	2000
Kenneth Osborne Rattray (Jamaica)	2000
Walid M. Sa'di (Jordan)	2000
Eibe Riedel (Germany)[°]	1998
Philippe Texier (France)	2000
Nutan Thapalia (Nepal)	1998
Javier Wimer Zambrano (Mexico)	1998

[°] Elected at the 2nd meeting, on 7 February 1997, to complete the unexpired portion of the term of Bruno Simma (Germany) (decision 1997/212 A).

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES[p]

(24 members; four-year term)

Membership in 1997 and 1998[q]

Gustavo Alvarez (Uruguay)
Denis Davis (Canada)
Vladislav M. Dolgopolov (Russian Federation)
Malin Falkenmark (Sweden)
Siripong Hungspreug (Thailand)
Adel Jalili (Islamic Republic of Iran)
Mohammad Nawaz Khan (Pakistan)
Li Yuwei (China)
Wafik Meshref (Egypt)
Neculai Pavovschi (Romania)
María Luisa Reyna de Aguilar (El Salvador)
Karlheinz Rieck (Germany)
Carlos A. Salvídar (Paraguay)
Carmen Luisa Velásquez de Visbal (Venezuela)
Ghana
Kenya
Malawi
Netherlands
Nigeria
Zambia

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[p] Established by the Council in its decision 1992/218, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 46/235.

[q] The Council decided that Egypt, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, the Netherlands, Nigeria and Zambia would nominate experts for a term beginning on 1 January 1997 (decision 1996/222). Egypt subsequently nominated an expert.

The Council postponed to a future session the election of one expert from Asian States, one expert from Eastern European States and two experts from Western European and other States for a term beginning on the date of election. The terms of the members will be determined by lot once the membership is complete (see decision 1997/212 B).

COMMITTEE ON NEW AND RENEWABLE SOURCES OF ENERGY AND ON ENERGY FOR DEVELOPMENT[r]

(24 members; four-year term)

Membership in 1997 and 1998[s]

Félix L. Campos Mejivar (El Salvador)
Bernard Devin (France)
José María Gamio Cia (Uruguay)
Zhang Guocheng (China)
Paul-Georg Gutermuth (Germany)
Wolfgang Hein (Austria)
Jón Ingimarsson (Iceland)
Ahmad Kahrobaian (Islamic Republic of Iran)
Choon-Ho Kim (Republic of Korea)
William Michael Mebane (Italy)
Daniel F. Pérez Fernández-Ravetti (Paraguay)
Eduardo Praselj (Venezuela)
E. V. R. Sastry (India)
Dimitri B. Volfberg (Russian Federation)
Netherlands
Qatar

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[r] Established by the Council in its decision 1992/218, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 46/235.

[s] The Council decided that the Netherlands would nominate an expert for a term beginning on 1 January 1997 (decision 1996/222) and that Qatar would nominate an expert for a term beginning on the date of election (decision 1997/212 B). The Council postponed to a future session the election of six experts from African States and two experts from Eastern European States for a term beginning on the date of election. The terms of the members will be determined by lot once the membership is complete (see decision 1997/212 B).

F. Related bodies

EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND

(36 members; three-year term)

Membership in 1997

Angola
Azerbaijan
Belgium
Burundi
Cape Verde
China
Cuba
Czech Republic
Denmark
Germany
India
Indonesia
Italy
Jamaica
Japan
Kenya
Morocco
Namibia
Netherlands
New Zealand
Nicaragua
Nigeria
Norway
Oman
Pakistan
Republic of Korea
Russian Federation
Suriname
Sweden
Switzerland
Turkey
Uganda
Ukraine
United States of America
Venezuela
Viet Nam

Membership in 1998[t]	Term expires on 31 December
Antigua and Barbuda	2000
Azerbaijan	2000
Bangladesh	2000
Belgium	1999
Cape Verde	1999
China	1999
Comoros	1998
Congo	2000
Cuba	2000
Czech Republic	1998
Finland	1999
France	2000
Germany	1998
Greece	1999
Indonesia	1999
Jamaica	1999
Japan	1999
Kazakhstan	1999
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	2000
Namibia	2000
New Zealand	2000
Nicaragua	1998
Nigeria	1998
Norway	1999
Oman	1999
Russian Federation	2000
South Africa	1999
Sudan	1998
Suriname	2000
Sweden	2000
Switzerland	1998
Ukraine	1998
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	2000
United States of America	1999
Viet Nam	1998
Yemen	2000

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[t] At the 3rd meeting, on 1 May 1997, the Council elected Sweden for a one-year term beginning on 1 January 1998 to complete the term of Denmark; Greece for a two-year term beginning on 1 January 1998 to complete the term of Italy; and France for a one-year term beginning on 1 January 1998 to complete the term of Turkey (decision 1997/212 B).

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE PROGRAMME OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES

(53 members)[u]

Algeria
Argentina
Australia
Austria
Bangladesh
Belgium
Brazil
Canada
China
Colombia
Democratic Republic of the Congo[v]
Denmark
Ethiopia
Finland
France
Germany
Greece
Holy See
Hungary
India
Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Ireland
Israel
Italy
Japan
Lebanon
Lesotho
Madagascar
Morocco
Namibia
Netherlands
Nicaragua
Nigeria
Norway
Pakistan
Philippines
Poland
Russian Federation
Somalia
South Africa
Spain
Sudan
Sweden
Switzerland
Thailand
Tunisia
Turkey
Uganda
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
United Republic of Tanzania
United States of America
Venezuela
Yugoslavia

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[u] Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 51/72, in which the Assembly decided to increase the number of members of the Executive Committee from 51 to 53 States, the Council elected Poland and South Africa members of the Executive Committee (decision 1997/212 A).

[v] Formerly Zaire.

EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME/ UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND

(36 members; three-year term)

Membership in 1997

- Antigua and Barbuda
- Argentina
- Australia
- Austria
- Belize
- Brazil
- Burundi
- China
- Cuba
- Democratic Republic of the Congo[x]
- Ethiopia
- Finland
- France
- Gambia
- Germany
- Guinea
- India
- Indonesia
- Japan
- Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
- Madagascar
- Malaysia
- Netherlands
- Norway
- Pakistan
- Philippines
- Romania
- Russian Federation
- Slovakia
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- Thailand
- Ukraine
- United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
- United States of America
- Zambia

Membership in 1998[w]	Term expires on 31 December
Antigua and Barbuda	1999
Argentina	1998
Australia	1998
Austria	1999
Belize	1998
Botswana	2000
Brazil	1999
Canada	1998
China	2000
Czech Republic	2000
Democratic Republic of the Congo[x]	2000
Denmark	2000
France	2000
Ghana	2000
Guinea	1999
India	1998
Ireland	2000
Jamaica	2000
Japan	1999
Lebanon	2000
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	1999
Madagascar	1998
Malaysia	1998
Netherlands	1998
Norway	1999
Pakistan	1999
Republic of Korea	2000
Romania	1998
Russian Federation	1999
South Africa	2000
Spain	2000
Thailand	1999
Ukraine	1998
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	1999
United Republic of Tanzania	2000
United States of America	1998

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[w] At the 3rd meeting, on 1 May 1997, the Council elected Canada for a one-year term beginning on 1 January 1998 to complete the term of Switzerland (decision 1997/212 B).

[x] Formerly Zaire.

EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME[y]

(36 members; three-year term)

Membership in 1997

Members elected by the Economic and Social Council	Term expires on 31 December
Angola	1999
Belgium	1999
Cameroon	1998
Denmark	1998
Ethiopia	1999
Hungary	1997
India	1998
Indonesia	1997
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	1999
Italy	1997
Japan	1999
Mauritania	1997
Mexico	1999
Norway	1997
Pakistan	1997
Paraguay	1998
Tunisia	1998
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	1998

Members elected by the FAO Council	Term expires on 31 December
Algeria	1998
Bangladesh	1997
Brazil	1999
Burundi	1997
Canada	1998
China	1998
Cuba	1998
El Salvador	1997
France	1999
Germany	1998
Haiti	1997
Jordan	1999
Netherlands	1997
Nigeria	1998
Senegal	1999
Slovakia	1999
Switzerland	1999
United States of America	1997

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[y] By resolution 50/8 of 1 November 1995, the General Assembly decided, subject to the concurrence of the Conference of the food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, that the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes should be reconstituted as the Executive Board of the World Food Programme, with 36 members elected from among the States Members of the United Nations and the States members elected of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and that the Economic and Social Council and the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations should elect 18 members each, according to the pattern set out in the resolution. The members of the Executive Board are elected from five lists set out in the Basic Texts of the World Food Programme and reproduced in document E/1995/L.11, annex II.

Membership in 1998

Members elected by the Economic and Social Council[z]	Term expires on 31 December
Angola	1999
Belgium	1999
Cameroon	1998
Denmark	1998
Ethiopia	1999
Finland	2000
India	1998
Indonesia	2000
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	1999
Japan	1999
Mexico	1999
Norway	2000
Pakistan	2000
Paraguay	1998
Russian Federation	2000
Sierra Leone	2000
Sweden	1998
Tunisia	1998

Members elected by the FAO Council[aa]	Term expires on 31 December
Algeria	1998
Brazil	1999
Canada	1998
China	1998
Cuba	1998
France	1999
Germany	1998
Jordan	1999
Nigeria	1998
Senegal	1999
Slovakia	1999
Switzerland	1999

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[z] At the 3rd meeting, on 1 May 1997, the Council elected Sweden for a one-year term beginning on 1 January 1998 to complete the term of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (decision 1997/212 B).

[aa] The remaining six seats are to be filled by the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations at its session to be held in November 1997.

INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL BOARD

Members elected by the Economic and Social Council to serve on the Board as constituted under the 1972 Protocol Amending the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961

Membership from 2 March 1997	Term expires on 1 March
Edward A. Babayan (Russian Federation)	2000
C. Chakrabarty (India)	2002
Nelia P. Cortés-Maramba (Philippines)	2002
Jacques Franquet (France)	2002
Abdol-Hamid Ghodse (Islamic Republic of Iran)	2002
Alfonso Gómez Méndez (Colombia)	2002
Dil Jan Khan (Pakistan)	2002
Mohamed A. Mansour (Egypt)	2000
António Lourenco Martins (Portugal)	2000
Herbert S. Okun (United States of America)	2002
Alfredo Pemjean (Chile)	2000
Oskar Schroeder (Germany)	2000
Elba Torres Graterol (Venezuela)	2000

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING INSTITUTE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

(11 members; three-year term)

Membership as at 1 July 1997	Term expires on 30 June
Selma Acuner (Turkey)	2000
Ihsan Abdallah Algabshawi (Sudan)	1998
Esther María Ashton (Bolivia)	1998
Zakia Amara Bouaziz (Tunisia)	2000
Maria Jonas (Austria)	1999
Noëlie Kangoye (Burkina Faso)	1999
Mona Chemali Khalaf (Lebanon)	1999
Norica Nicolai (Romania)	2000
Els Postel-Coster (Netherlands)	1998
Glenda P. Simms (Jamaica)	2000
Amaryllis T. Torres (Philippines)	2000

COMMITTEE FOR THE UNITED NATIONS POPULATION AWARD[bb]

Members elected for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1998[cc]

El Salvador
Guatemala
Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Netherlands
Thailand

[bb] For the regulations governing the Award, see General Assembly resolution 36/201 and decision 41/445.

[cc] The Council postponed to a future session the election of three members from African States, one member from Eastern European States and one member from Latin American and Caribbean States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2000 (decision 1997/212 B).

PROGRAMME COORDINATION BOARD OF THE JOINT AND CO-SPONSORED UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME ON HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS/ ACQUIRED IMMUNODEFICIENCY SYNDROME

(22 members; three-year term)

Membership in 1997	Membership in 1998[dd]	Term expires on 31 December
Algeria	Australia	1999
Barbados	Barbados	2000
Bulgaria	Belgium	2000
Canada	China	2000
China	Congo	1998
Congo	Côte d'Ivoire	1999
Côte d'Ivoire	Denmark	1999
France	Germany	1998
India	India	1998
Japan	Japan	2000
Mexico	Mexico	1999
Netherlands	Pakistan	1998
Norway	Paraguay	1998
Pakistan	Poland	2000
Paraguay	Russian Federation	1998
Russian Federation	South Africa	2000
South Africa	Switzerland	2000
Sweden	Thailand	1999
Thailand	Uganda	1998
Uganda	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	2000
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	United States of America	1998
United States of America		

[dd] At the 3rd meeting, on 1 May 1997, the Council elected Australia for a two-year term beginning on 1 January 1998 to complete the term of Canada; Germany for a one-year term beginning on 1 January 1998 to complete the term of France; and Denmark for a two-year term beginning on 1 January 1998 to complete the term of Norway. The Council postponed to a future session the election of one member from African States for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 199 (decision 1997/212 B).

Annex III

INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS DESIGNATED BY THE COUNCIL UNDER RULE 79 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE[a] FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE DELIBERATIONS OF THE COUNCIL ON QUESTIONS WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THEIR ACTIVITIES

Organizations accorded permanent observer status by the General Assembly

Africa, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (General Assembly resolution 36/4)

African Development Bank (General Assembly resolution 42/10)

Agency for Culture and Technical Cooperation (General Assembly resolution 33/18)

Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (General Assembly resolution 43/6)

Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee (General Assembly resolution 35/2)

Caribbean Community (General Assembly resolution 46/8)

Central American Integration System (General Assembly resolution 50/2)

Commonwealth of Independent States (General Assembly resolution 48/237)

Commonwealth Secretariat (General Assembly resolution 31/3)

Council of Europe (General Assembly resolution 44/6)

Economic Cooperation Organization (General Assembly resolution 48/2)

European Community (General Assembly resolution 3208 (XXIX))

International Committee of the Red Cross (General Assembly resolution 45/6)

International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol) (General Assembly resolution 51/1)

International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (General Assembly resolution 49/2)

International Organization for Migration (General Assembly resolution 47/4)

International Seabed Authority (General Assembly resolution 51/6)

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[a] The text of rule 79, entitled "Participation of other intergovernmental organization", reads: "Representatives of intergovernmental organizations accorded permanent observer status by the General Assembly and of other intergovernmental organizations designated on an ad hoc or a continuing basis by the Council on the recommendation of the Bureau may participate, without the right to vote, in the deliberations of the Council on questions within the scope of the activities of the organizations".

International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (General Assembly resolution 51/204)

Latin American Economic System (SELA) (General Assembly resolution 35/3)

Latin American Parliament (General Assembly resolution 48/4)

League of Arab States (General Assembly resolution 477 (V))

Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (General Assembly resolution 48/5)

Organization of African Unity (General Assembly resolution 2011 (XX))

Organization of American States (General Assembly resolution 253 (III))

Organization of the Islamic Conference (General Assembly resolution 3369 (XXX))

Permanent Court of Arbitration (General Assembly resolution 48/3)

South Pacific Forum (General Assembly resolution 49/1)

Sovereign Military Order of Malta (General Assembly resolution 48/265)

Organizations designated by the Economic and Social Council

Participation on a continuing basis

African Regional Centre for Technology (Council decision 1980/151)

Asian Productivity Organization (APO) (Council decision 1980/114)

Council of Arab Economic Unity (Council decision 109 (LIX))

International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (Council decision 1997/215)

International Centre for Public Enterprises in Developing Countries (ICPE) (Council decision 1980/114)

Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE) (Council decision 1980/114)

Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (Council decision 109 (LIX))

Organization of Ibero-American States for Education, Science and Culture (Council decision 1986/156)

Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (Council decision 109 (LIX))

Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment (Council decision 1992/265)

Union of Economic and Social Councils of Africa (Council decision 1996/225)

World Tourism Organization (Council decision 109 (LIX))

Participation on an ad hoc basis

African Accounting Council (Council decision 1987/161)

African Cultural Institute (Council decision 1987/161)

Arab Security Studies and Training Centre (Council decision 1989/165)

Council of Arab Ministers of the Interior (Council decision 1987/161)

Customs Cooperation Council (Council decision 1989/165)

International Bauxite Association (Council decision 1987/161)

International Civil Defence Organization (Council decision 109 (LIX))

Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences (Council decision 239 (LXII))